

Mr Nixon calls Vice-President to White House as support collapses

President Ford was summoned to the White House yesterday, the day after he made a speech in which he said the erosion of confidence in the American Government had reached crisis proportions. He spoke with Mr Nixon for an hour, and it was stated that the possibility of the President's resignation was not discussed.

More senators call for resignation from office

Patrick Brogan, Birmingham, May 10. Vice-President Gerald Ford, was summoned to the White House today after his warning of erosion of public confidence reached crisis proportions. A statement afterwards, however, said that the two men did not discuss the possibility of Nixon resigning.

Hostages murdered as police storm jail

Genoa, May 10. Four people were killed today when the police stormed Alessandria prison north of Genoa, where three convicts had barricaded themselves inside a hospital wing with 16 hostages in an attempt to obtain their freedom.

The dead included three hostages—a woman social worker who had her throat slit, and two prison guards. One of the three convicts, Domenico DiBona, was also killed. Cesare Conco, the leader in the escape attempt, was critically injured, together with the third prisoner, Everaldo Lovrero.

Mr Short says he did not know of Smith link with builders

By Christopher Sweeney

In a letter to *The Times* today Mr Edward Short, Leader of the House of Commons, says that in 1963 (when he accepted £250 from Mr T. Dan Smith) he did not know there was any connection between Mr Smith and Crudens, the construction company at the centre of dispute involving building contractors.

Mr Short says that he acted improperly by intervening in the affair or that he attempted to secure the Newcastle building contract for the company. In the letter Mr Short says that his "extremely limited" intervention was designed solely to help his constituents. I acted in perfectly good faith in the interests of my own people and I hope I shall always do so.

He says that at the time he did not know of the declared or undeclared interest of Mr Smith, a former local councillor recently jailed for corruption, in the Crudens contract. "What I did know was that at a Labour group meeting in July, 1963, Mr Smith denied emphatically to his colleagues that he had any interest at all in Crudens. Councillor Walter Wilson, who was present, confirmed this to me only this week, and added that Mr Smith threatened to sue anyone who alleged that he had such a connexion."

Mr Short points out that the details of Mr Smith's interest in Crudens "is and was obscure". It was true, however, that Mr Smith declared an interest in the company in July, 1962, at a meeting of the housing committee. Mr Short continues, although this interest, he was told, then concerned a "small painting contract that Mr Smith's decorating company held from Crudens."

Because of the denials from Mr Smith, Mr Short says that he did not know of the connexion. "I was naturally not present at the meeting of the housing committee in July, 1962, and the minutes of the meeting which record the declaration were not available other than to committee members." "The fact that Mr Smith was able to deny any interest in Crudens at the July meeting of the Labour group in 1963, a year after the declared interest and five months after the start of the Cladan contract (between Mr Smith's firm and Crudens), is surely evidence enough that Mr Smith's close council colleagues were unaware of the position. In these circumstances it is all the more unlikely that I myself could have known of it."



A team of Shetlands showing its paces at the Windsor Royal Horse Show yesterday as it was driven in the ring by Mr Bassett for the Trade and Agricultural Light Turnout. The team was entered by Automobile Consultants, of Banstead, Surrey.



Mr Langston told the court yesterday that he was not claiming compensation from the union, against which he has made allegations of unfair industrial practice. He wants the court to give him a declaration that he was legally entitled to be a member of any of the unions recognized by Chrysler's.

Two top IRA men captured in flat in fashionable Belfast suburb

From Robert Fisk, Belfast. An attractive £50,000 house surrounded by rose gardens and well-landed lawns in the most fashionable, middle-class area of Belfast turned out yesterday to have contained the most senior IRA's tactical headquarters in the city. In a raid on the house shortly after lunchtime, the police and the Army not only uncovered a wealth of maps, plans and documents, but also found the most senior IRA officer in Belfast, dressed as befitted a man in such opulent circumstances in a smart new pinstripe three-piece suit.

Two of the men walked up to the policemen and opened fire with a sub-machinegun and a pistol. As the constables fell to the pavement, only a few yards from a local cinema, the men ran to the car and drove off. The vehicle was seen travelling towards the Roman Catholic Andersonstown housing estate but crashed. The men made off on foot.

Myrtlefield Park runs off the Malone Road, one of the most select districts in Belfast, where several of the city's leading businessmen, lawyers and politicians live. The house at number 64 is divided into flats and none of the other residents knew that the man they must have passed in the drive was Mr Hughes.

London rail call for 'miners' rise'

By Michael Bailey. Drivers and guards on London's rail commuter service may get pay rises of 20 to 30 per cent to halt the decline in services caused by staff shortages.

Mr Robert Reid, chairman of the Southern Region, called yesterday for a "miners-style" pay deal to attract and retain 4,000 men needed to restore south London commuter services to their proper level.

Two-thirds rise in night electricity

Michael Horne. Night rate electricity charges rise by two-thirds, Mr Eddie Eadie, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Energy, said yesterday. The rise in the special winter tariff, which consumers storage radiators pay, will be about 0.3p a unit and follows Healey's announcement in March of a 30 per cent rise in electricity.

Five Dutch missionaries say Portuguese security forces got rid of murdered blacks in mass graves

New Mozambique massacre reported

Minor Frelimo attacks were followed then by further maltreatment of the African population by the security forces and during August and September the missionaries received reports of increased training by Frelimo, whose influence grew. By the end of the year attacks on trains had thrown the white population into panic.

Karpov shatters Spassky's hope of regaining title

Moscow, May 10. Boris Spassky, the former world chess champion, will not be meeting Bobby Fischer next year in an attempt to regain his title. He was defeated tonight in the semi-final of the challenger's tournament by Anatoly Karpov who won the eleventh game and the match by four games to one.

The rest of the news

- Poverty: Minister may be appointed to coordinate work at home and abroad
- Coalition fear: Dispute over the Queen's prerogative
- Probation officers: Vote on social inquiry reports may bring clash with judges
- Merchant Navy: Shipping Bill will abolish some criminal offences
- French election: Poll boost for Mitterrand
- Bonn: Herr Schmidt completes his Cabinet list
- Middle East: Israel optimism that Kissinger travels will lead to peace
- Rugby tour: Government snub to British Lions angers Conservatives
- Khrushchev memoirs: Final excerpt deals with defence
- Theatre: John Dexter talks to John Higgins about the Queen's Gallery exhibition; William Gaunt on Sea Pictures at Brighton
- George Hutchinson: Can Mr Powell resist the Ulster road back?
- Sportsview: Ken Buchanan boxing clever in the fight business
- Heritage: When an Englishman's stately home is his liability
- Football: Joe Mercer makes sweeping changes in England's team
- Base rate cut: Lloyds Bank reduction to 12%
- Norwegian gas: Plan for piping to Britain
- Appointments 16
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- Chess 9
- Science 16
- Court 16
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- TV & Radio 10
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- Theatres, etc 13
- Gardening 12
- Mr Gromyko invited to visit Britain
- Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday invited Mr Gromyko, the Russian Foreign Minister, to visit Britain at a date to be fixed.

Finding it may be a problem. Pronouncing it may be a problem. Affording it may be a problem.

HOME NEWS

'Minister of poverty' may be appointed to coordinate action

By Pat Healy Social Services Correspondent The Prime Minister yesterday agreed to consider forming an inter-ministerial group to coordinate action against poverty in Britain and the developing countries...

Maudling lawyers scrutinize new book

By a Staff Reporter Lawyers acting for Mr Maudling, the former Home Secretary, were instructed yesterday to decide whether a book which deals with his association with the Real Estate Fund of America defames him...



The Rev Leslie Facey, a Methodist minister at Shaw, near Oldham, Lancashire, holding one of the Oriental relics collected during missionary service in China and now on display at his house, which he has opened to the public.

Mr Wilson compared to 'cheap huckster'

By Our Political Staff Mr St John-Stevens, shadow minister for the arts, yesterday accused Mr Wilson of "descending to an invective and innuendo worthy of a cheap party huckster..."

Plan to set up MPs' interests list by summer

By Our Political Staff Although the Government has its own proposals for a compulsory register of MPs' outside financial interests, senior ministers recognize that there are grounds for genuine differences of view about the scope of the register...

Mr Short and left wing in dispute on Queen's freedom of choice

By George Clark Political Correspondent The theory of Labour's left wing that, in the event of a Government defeat on a confidence motion, the Queen could take an initiative to form a coalition government is not ruled out by Mr Short, Leader of the House...

Union 'would support striking nurses'

Mr Bill Griffiths, Midlands divisional officer of the 450,000-member National Union of Public Employees union told a nurses' meeting in Leeds yesterday: "If the nurses decided to go on strike we would support them wholeheartedly..."

More internees may be released

From Robert Fisk Belfast A six-hour meeting yesterday attended by Mr Merlyn Rees, the Secretary of State, the two main parties in the Northern Ireland Executive laid the groundwork of a compromise that could bring another phased release of internees from the Maze prison at Long Kesh...

Belfast arrests: IRA documents found

The flat in Myrtlefield Park was rented some weeks ago and in it the police found what future bombing attacks. They also found documents, equipment for making explosives, and a considerable amount of ammunition...

In brief

Authors' lendin' right Bill fails

The Public Lending Right, a private member's Bill which would have given authors a right to receive payments on the borrowings, failed to receive a second reading in the Commons yesterday...

Second homes protest

A motion was tabled yesterday in the Commons by Liberal MP Kenneth Baker, Conservative MP for the Cities of London and Westminster, Sir Mary...

Kodak slowdown

Processing of colour prints is being slowed down by Kodak at Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, may be a work to rule by 300 technicians which started yesterday after talks on recognition broke down between the unions and the plant...

Journalists strike

Nearly 100 journalists, including the Editor of the Telegraph, Mr Kenneth Clarke, and Mr Peter Goss, struck yesterday and picketed their offices...

£35,000 arts grant

The Arts Council is to give £35,000 to Arvil Prodnor, Oxford Playhouse professor, in its first year, paired with £50,000 received the previous company in its year...

Cat may have opera

Arthur, the television cat who was recovered on Thursday being stolen three weeks ago from the cattery at Lamb End, Essex, may have an operation on his teeth...

Farm man killed

Mr David Jackson, age 50, was killed yesterday when he was washing a Land Rover on a farm at Upware, Cambs.shire...

Hyde Park pop

Open-air pop concert Hyde Park, London, which banned last year after a ban on earlier pop festivals will probably be allowed on again this summer...

Football guide

Patrick Thistle and Qu the South are exotic name places which are as much of our heritage as Stratford-upon-Avon and direct to the sea? And what are they tomorrow? In The Sunday they are included in a guide to the great city football by Ian Nairn...

Weather forecast and recordings

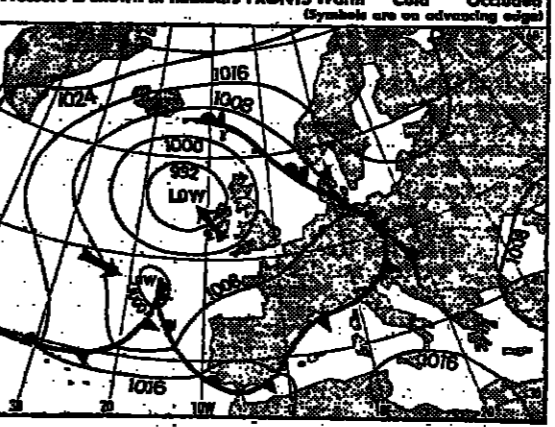


Table with columns for 'Today' and 'Tomorrow' weather forecasts, including sun/moon rises and sets, and temperature ranges.

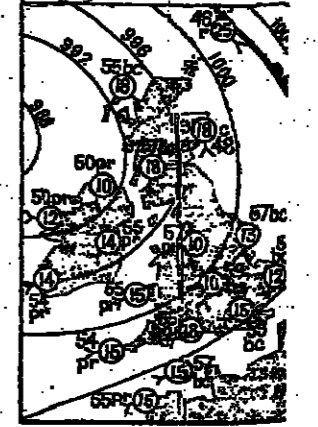


Table with columns for 'Yesterday' and 'At the resorts' weather data, including temperature, wind, and sea conditions.

Study of arts by minister

An examination of how the organization and administration of the arts can be made more effective has been made by Mr Hugh Jenkins, minister responsible for the arts...

Land of missed opportunity

When Nottingham Corporation rejected an offer of just over an acre of land in Tennis Fields, near the city centre, for £20,000 it was bought by someone else. Now nearly two years later the corporation is to buy the land as a housing site for £64,000...

Union 'would support striking nurses'

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'Incompetent assassins' are jailed

A widower and his daughter-in-law plotted her husband's murder by poison, drugs, electric shock and strangulation, it was alleged at Birmingham Crown Court yesterday. But all their bizarre plans, hatched against a background of "degrading and disgusting sexual relations" failed and the husband survived...

Film 'hot line'

A telephone "hot-line" is to be manned each evening by six clerks at Reading for people distressed after seeing the film The Executioner when it opens in the town...

Weather forecast and recordings



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At the resorts

Table with columns for 'At the resorts' weather data, including temperature, wind, and sea conditions for various locations.

Weather forecast and recordings

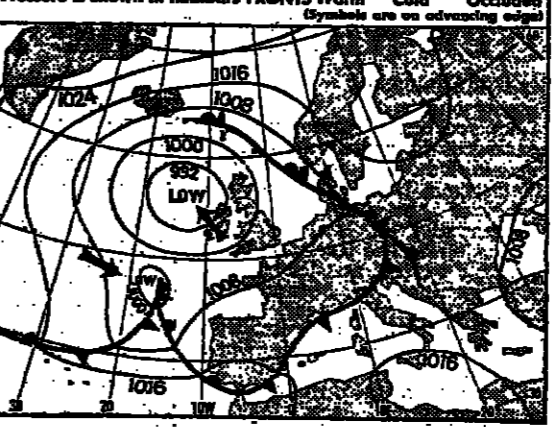


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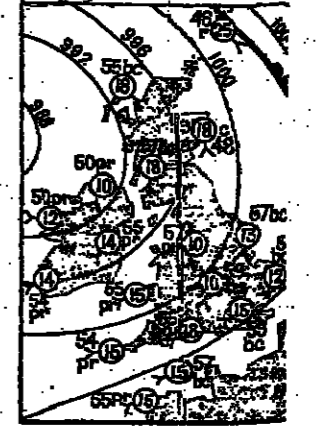


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HOME NEWS

Probation officers to withhold social inquiry reports from courts until guilt is established

From Peter Evans Home Affairs Correspondent Weymouth

Probation officers voted yesterday to withhold social inquiry reports about persons appearing before courts until after guilt has been established. The decision, made at the annual conference of the National Association of Probation Officers here, could bring the officers into conflict with judges and, some officers feel, perhaps into contempt of court.

they also had social inquiry reports, it would help to balance matters.

Missings about proposals for dealing with young adult offenders have produced an emergency resolution to be debated today at the conference. Some feel that new ways of supervising offenders in the community instead of in prison will mean probation officers becoming, in effect, too much like mobile prison officers.

Shipping Bill will end some Navy crimes

By Paul Routledge Labour Correspondent

The Government has conceded part of the trade union case for abolishing criminal offences which can be committed by seamen in the Merchant Navy. Under the Merchant Shipping Bill, published yesterday, it will no longer be a crime to disobey certain orders or to be absent without leave when a ship sails.

Hungry child tried to eat rabbits' cabbage leaves

From Our Correspondent Nottingham

Denise Wilson, aged three, was so hungry that she tried to eat old cabbage leaves that had been put outside for pet rabbits, it was alleged at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday. She was so dehydrated that she drank dirty water with soil in it from an old jug in her garden, it was added. She died the same day after a fall. Her body was found to have more than 70 bruises.

Patients set up centre for cure of stammering

By John Roper Medical Reporter

A derelict store room in the grounds of an Oxford hospital, converted by patients into a treatment centre for stammering adults, is to be formally opened today. The Apple House speech therapy unit at the Warfield Hospital will mark the emergence of a new charity, the Stammer Trust, to help to treat and sponsor research into an affliction which, it says, affects hundreds of thousands of adults.

The former of patients strained the hospital's resources for some time. Members of the group do not like some of the implications of suggestions that it will be a stronger non-custodial sentence than probation, and that it would be appropriate for offenders whom the courts at present sentence to a custodial measure but who could be allowed to remain in the community if subject to a greater degree of supervision and control.

Inflation threatens litigation solicitors with ruin in year, meeting told

From Marcel Berlins Legal Correspondent Bath

Solicitors in private practice handling civil litigation were in danger of ruin within a year because of inflation, Mr Jeffrey Gordon, chairman of the British Legal Association, said here yesterday. Speaking at the annual meeting of the association, which represents more than 3,000 solicitors, Mr Gordon said civil cases took three to four years to get to court, but over the period of time which was diminishing in value.

Criticising neighbourhood law centres for putting forward the untrue view that the private practitioner could not cope with legal work in socially deprived areas, Mr Gordon said: "There is only one thing holding the private firm back in the poorer areas. It is more and more difficult to finance litigation." He regarded law centres as "enemies of the profession". It was time for solicitors to fight back.

Woman sterilized by Nazis took away baby

From Our Correspondent Reading

A German-born woman who was said to have been sterilized by the Nazis during the last war for helping prisoners, took a baby from outside a hair-dresser's shop on impulse, it was stated at Reading Crown Court, Berkshire, yesterday. The child's mother saw the pram being pushed away, ran out of the shop and caught up with the woman, Marie Kalednik, aged 50, a married woman with no children.

Chain of battery stations urged for electric cars

By Michael Bailly Transport Correspondent

Professor Sir Colin Buchanan, author of Traffic in Towns, yesterday called for a nationwide chain of battery stations to enable battery-driven cars and buses to become a "significant part of the vehicle population". Electric vehicles enjoyed a vast amount of publicity through their enormous reduction in noise and pollution, he said, but their use was limited as long as they were tied to home bases by their short ranges.

Safety drive to protect farm children

Agriculture is the one industry which it is virtually impossible to keep children off the "factory floor", especially on the small family farm. This was pointed out in London yesterday when the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents safety campaign directed particularly at risks to children.

Oxford students' union owes pay

Oxford University students' union has debts of £1,500, claiming an overdraft of £150. The salary of its one full-time officer, the president, has not been paid for two weeks.

American girl 'knew nothing of guns'

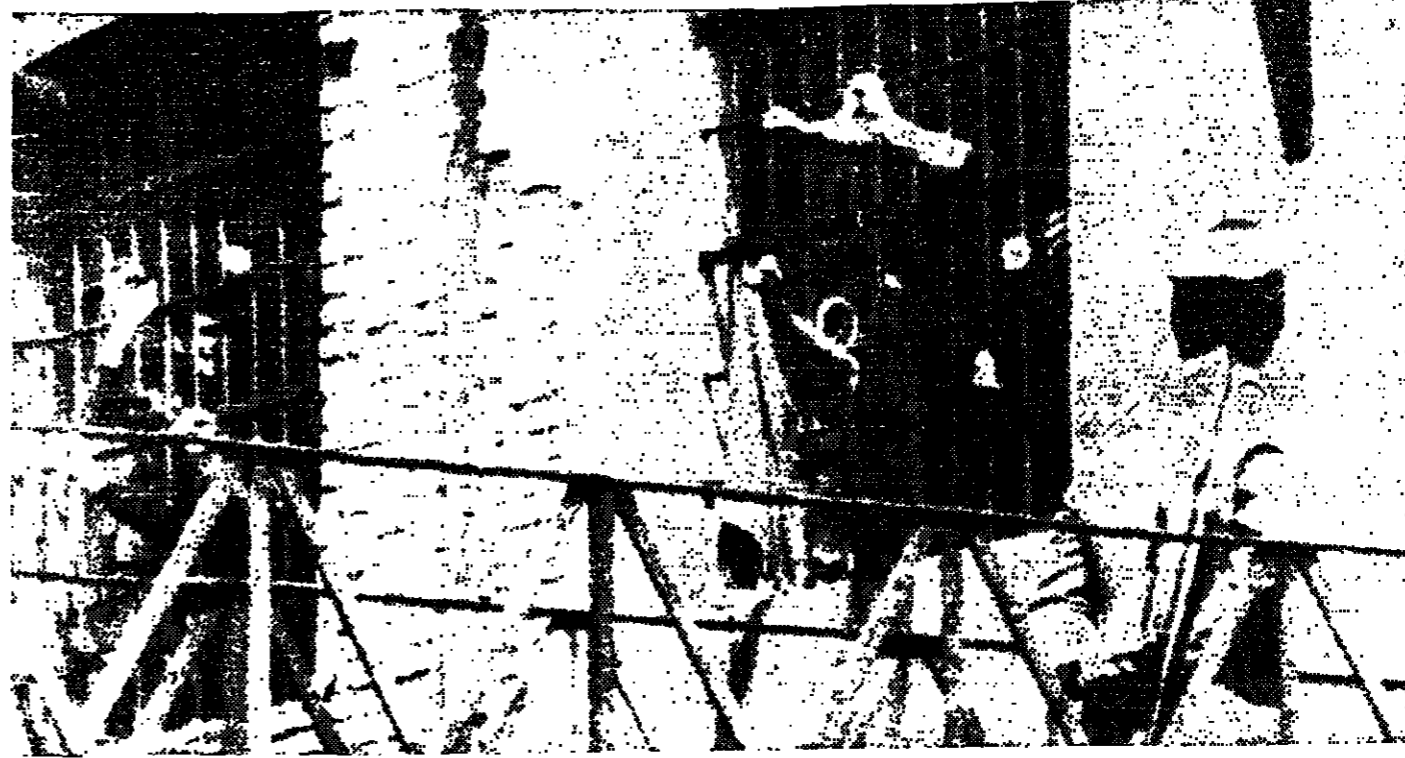
Allison Thompson, aged 18, the American girl in the Heathrow airport guns plot trial, told a jury at the Central Criminal Court yesterday that before she left Los Angeles last Christmas she was promised: "You are going to have a New Year like you have never had it before."

The prosecution has alleged that there was a plot to kidnap a senior French Government official and then demand the release of 30 Moroccan political prisoners. Miss Thompson said Mr el-Hakkaoui had never spoken to her about politics, Morocco or revolution. Mr Brown and Mr Naseem had never discussed politics, revolution, assassination or kidnapping.

25 years ago

From The Times of Wednesday, May 11, 1949. Frosts of May After what is believed to be the worst severe frost in May for many years, frost growers in Lincolnshire, Essex and the Midway Valley of Kent yesterday reported serious damage to their crops.

WEST EUROPE



Three armed prisoners holding hostages at Alessandria prison, Italy, waving their hands from the windows of the jail.

M Mitterrand tipped by opinion poll before television debate

From Richard Wigg Paris, May 10

M François Mitterrand, the left's candidate in the French presidential election, went into a debating duel with M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing on television tonight favoured by the latest public opinion poll which showed him winning. It said he would obtain 51 per cent of the votes polled.

concerned only those in the sampling who have made up their minds. A reservoir of 16 per cent, the pollsters found, still exists for the two candidates to seek to conquer in the final week of the campaign. The importance of the television debate was shown by the decision of the executive of the Radical Party, led by M Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber, to put off its choice between the two candidates until it had seen them in action on the screen.

Italy faces close voting on divorce

From Our Correspondent Rome, May 10

The campaign for and against the abolition of divorce ended tonight, with the outcome of Sunday's national referendum still unpredictable. The 37,500,000 voters have 24 hours "thinking time" free from the barrage of conflicting propaganda before voting on Sunday and Monday. The results are expected late on Monday or on Tuesday morning.

EEC proposes to increase Britain's haulage quota

From Roger Berthoud Brussels, May 10

The European Commission today announced draft regulations which, given ministerial approval, would considerably increase Britain's quota of EEC lorry permits. The Commission is proposing that Britain should have 227 permits for the rest of 1974, rising to 272 next year and 318 in 1976. It hopes that the transport ministers of the Nine will meet next month and take a decision.

Confidence vote averts Danish Cabinet crisis

From Our Correspondent Copenhagen, May 10

After an all-night debate on the Liberal minority Government's emergency economic proposals, the Folketing this morning approved a motion of confidence introduced by a fringe party and this temporarily removed the threat of a Cabinet crisis and a general election. During the debate Mr Poul Hartling, the Prime Minister, had been so certain that an election was inevitable that he had announced that he would resign if the Folketing rejected the Government's proposals.

Strikers seize US firm's recording tapes

Nivelles, Belgium, May 10

Striking workers seized 10,000 tape recording cassettes at a branch factory of the American company Ampex today and threatened to sell them at low prices if the company did not agree to their demands. The union said in a letter to the Belgian Government that it demanded the automatic payment of a thirteenth monthly salary and greater security of employment.

French gunners are given nuclear missiles

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, May 10

A French Army unit has received its first operational Pluton tactical nuclear missiles, which can be fired from the French AMX 30 tanks. In a report from its defence correspondent, Le Monde said tonight that the Third Armory Regiment, stationed at Mailly in the Aube, south-east of Paris, was thus taking part actively in the nuclear deterrent policy which until now was entrusted to the Air Force and the Navy.

Herr Schmidt completes his Cabinet list

From Dan van der Vat Bonn, May 10

Helmut Schmidt, the prospective new West German Chancellor, today completed his Cabinet list, to be announced after he is elected Chancellor by the Bundestag on Thursday. The list will be smaller by two members. The special coalition commission will meet again on Sunday to work out the contents of the Government declaration on policy which Herr Schmidt will deliver after he is elected.

Goalkeeper makes life-saving catch

Ferny-Voltaire, France, May 10

Pierre Vanier, a former soccer goalkeeper, made the save of his life here yesterday when he caught a five-year-old girl who fell 60ft from a sixth-floor balcony. The girl escaped with a broken arm.—Reuter.

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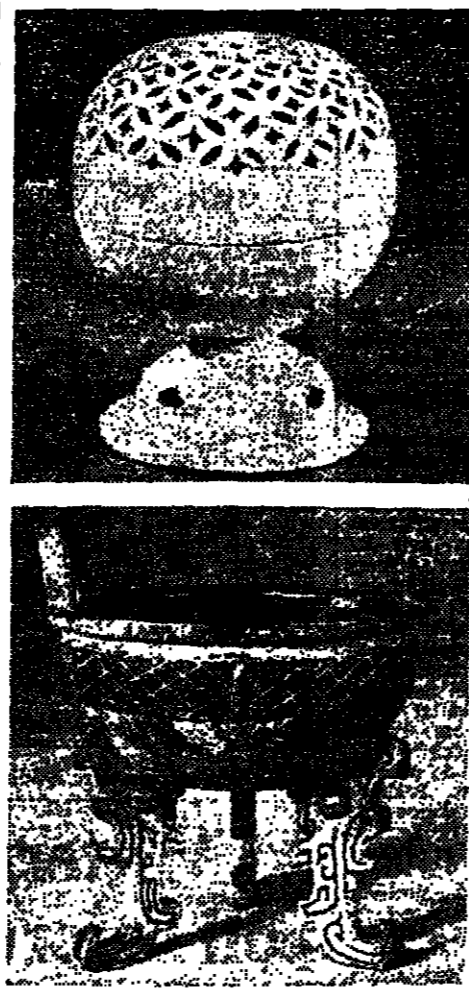
OVERSEAS

Israel minister forecasts success for Dr Kissinger's efforts to achieve agreement with Syria

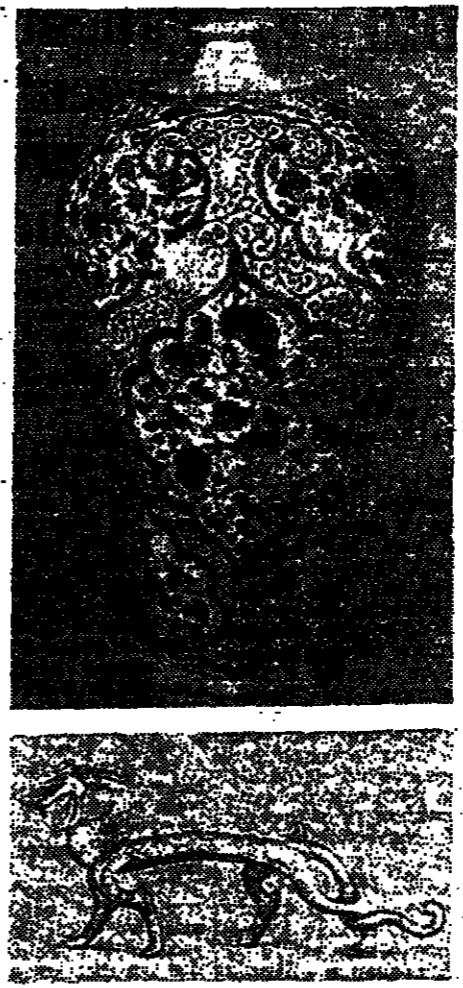
From Moshe Brilliant Tel Aviv, May 10 Dr Henry Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, arrived in Jerusalem today and drove to Jerusalem to report to Mrs Golda Meir, Prime Minister, on his talks in Riyadh and Cairo. He is to proceed to Damascus on Sunday to continue his attempts to mediate a disengagement agreement between Israel and Syria.

behind which it was prepared to stand in the framework of a separation of forces agreement. "I do not expect there any further changes in this line are possible", he added. Mr Allon said his Government had learned from the American delegation that a "development had taken place in the Syrian thinking, and that they were now prepared to reach an agreement with Israel."

Reuter and Agence France Presse. Paul Martin writes from Damascus: The Syrian regime is depending on Dr Kissinger to bring more concessions out of Israel on withdrawal from territory captured in the 1967 war. Having branded the Israeli plan brought to Damascus last week as "inadequate", Syrian officials maintain that Dr Kissinger's talks are now reaching their most critical stage.



Collector's items: On June 24 and 25 Christie's are to sell the collection of Chinese art formed by Mr Frederick M. Mayer, of New York. The auctioneers describe it as the finest collection to be auctioned since the Second World War.



ordinary achievement of this collection, formed quietly since 1945, and displaying an eye for quality and a delightfully personal taste. Top left, Tung incense burner, a northern Sung piece dating from the early twelfth century.



ware mortar or bowl. Two others are recorded; this one is in perfect condition. Bottom left, late Shang dynasty bronze ring, or ritual food vessel. The power of the design is enhanced by the unusual bird dragon feet.

Chained man hands out anti-Greece leaflets

From Our Correspondent Athens, May 10 A young German today chained himself to a lamp-post in Constitution Square, Athens, and distributed hundreds of anti-regime leaflets before security men, who beat him up severely, managed to free him with the help of a locksmith.

The man was named by the police as Herr Wallraff, 32, a factory worker from Cologne. But other sources insisted he was Ginter Wallraff, a well-known author who edits the Hamburg magazine Das Da, and is the husband of a niece of Herr Heinrich Bull, the Nobel Prize-winning author.

US welcome for 'Wilson plan' on oil crisis

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, May 10 Mr Harold Lever, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, has been most encouraged by his reception in Washington. He has been discussing with American officials the steps which the industrialized world should take to save the world economy from serious difficulties caused by the rise in the price of oil.

Mrs Meir objects to new coalition moves

From Moshe Brilliant Tel Aviv, May 10 Dismissing angry protests by Mrs Golda Meir, Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Prime Minister-designate, today sounded out Mrs Shulamit Aloni, leader of the Civil Rights List movement, about joining his proposed Government.

Mrs Meir and Mr Dayan are members of the caretaker Government which retains power until a new administration wins a parliamentary majority. Mrs Meir said her objections to Mrs Aloni were not personal but she feared the Government was already too "doctored" and the inclusion of the Civil Rights List would make it more so.

Hopes fade for quick end to India rail strike

From Michael Horasby Delhi, May 10 Hopes of a quick end to India's national rail strike, which goes into its fourth day tomorrow, appeared to fade tonight as strikers' representatives rejected the Government's settlement proposal.

Snub to Lions angers Tories

By Our Political Correspondent Conservative backbenchers reacted predictably yesterday to the announcement that the British Embassy in South Africa had been told by the Foreign Office not to take part in soccer functions arranged for the British Lions rugby team now touring the country.

Pakistan hopes Mr Bhutto can step up Chinese aid

From Our Correspondent Rawalpindi, May 10 The reported illness of Mr Chou En Lai, the Prime Minister of China, has not altered the hopes of Mr Bhutto, Prime Minister of Pakistan, for a four-day state visit to Peking.

Mr Whitlam's 6,000-mile day of electioneering

Perth, May 10—Mr Whitlam's 6,000-mile day of electioneering ended one of his most hectic days of campaigning for a week's federal elections with a rousing rally here today.

Shadow of freedom on Beira road

From Michael Knipe Beira, May 10 The still smouldering wreckage of a long-distance bus, destroyed by Frelimo bazooka and machine gun fire, was the latest grim evidence of Mozambique's resistance to the change of power in Lisbon.

Marques, an Indian woman running a general store said: "They think independence has been declared. Some are already driving who will take over my shop. They say: 'Why should we work on the roads now independence is here?'"

the first time in their most southerly military action. In two separate incidents they killed three lorry drivers. According to an African couple running a hotel at Maxixe, a tiny coastal village where shows continue to ply a modest trade, the incident was an isolated one.

A seventeenth birthday in a Turkish jail

Izmir, Turkey, May 10—The British schoolboy, Timothy Davey, celebrated his seventeenth birthday today with a family party in the Turkish jail where he is serving a sentence for drug offences.

Labourer's feet hacked off by terrorists

From Our Correspondent Salisbury, May 10 The feet of a black farm labourer were hacked off by terrorists last weekend, the police here said today. His friends were forced to hold him down naked on a piece of wood while it was done.

Communists quit Vietnam talks over status issue

From Victoria Britain Saigon, May 10 The delegates of the communist Provisional Revolutionary Government walked out of today's regular meeting of the Joint Military Committee, leaving behind a note saying they were suspending the JMC meetings indefinitely.

Tito visit postponed

Belgrade, May 9—A visit by Marshal Tito has been postponed because of the nation of Herr Brandt, the ICSS letters. "I'll not refuse to discuss the

Japan's sanction breaking threatened

From Peter Hazellburs Japan, May 10 Reports that a new civilian government in Lisbon will try to respect a political settlement with rebel forces in Portugal's African colonies have alarmed a large section of Japan's steel industry which is importing Rhodesian chrome through Mozambique.

threat to Japan's steel and metal industry. If Rhodesia's supply is cut off, Japan will have to look for alternative sources, but the number of countries which produce the scarce ore are limited, as a steel company executive admitted today.

Japan's two second biggest suppliers of chrome are India (221,224 tons last year) and the Soviet Union (193,333 tons). Japan also received limited supplies from smaller producers including Turkey, Brazil and Iran.

29 leftist leaders brought for trial in Santiago

Santiago, May 10—Twenty-nine leftist leaders of Chile's former Government have been brought from Dawson Island to Santiago for trial and are being held at four different detention centres, the Government announced today.

Labourer's feet hacked off by terrorists

From Our Correspondent Salisbury, May 10 The feet of a black farm labourer were hacked off by terrorists last weekend, the police here said today. His friends were forced to hold him down naked on a piece of wood while it was done.

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KHRUSHCHEV MEMOIRS

Soviet leaders must always keep a bit between their teeth of the military

With authorization of Time magazine, exclusive to The Times. Now that I'm no longer active, I can't help noticing from my position as a pensioner that the economic reforms we started seem to have been reversed...



Khrushchev's grave in Moscow. A picture taken this year.

Besides, I was never too impressed by our ability to keep secrets from the enemy. I once asked Comrade Malinovsky why the latest inspection, so that neither side could concentrate troop transports for a sneak attack...

By making the initiative in scaling down the arms race, we will also appeal to the intelligentsia in the West and all over the world. Of course, I know we're not going to appeal to Senator Barry Goldwater. I'm operating on the assumption that the United States isn't made up solely of Goldwaters...

Law Report May 10 1974

Hurried trial a breach of natural justice

gina v Thames Magistrates' Court, Ex parte Polenski. Mr Justice Ashworth and Mr Justice Bristow. The offences under section 2 were not trivial. There was a maximum fine of £50,000 on summary trial...

Queen's Bench Division

PROPERTY also on page 21

THE JUSTICES were fearful that the ship's master and any remedy would slip away with the tide, but they had adequate powers to prevent that from happening...

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A Records Ltd v King (Sales) Ltd. Mr Justice Brightman. The defendant's failure to give notice was not a breach of the Act. The court held that knowledge was not necessary for a conversion claim...

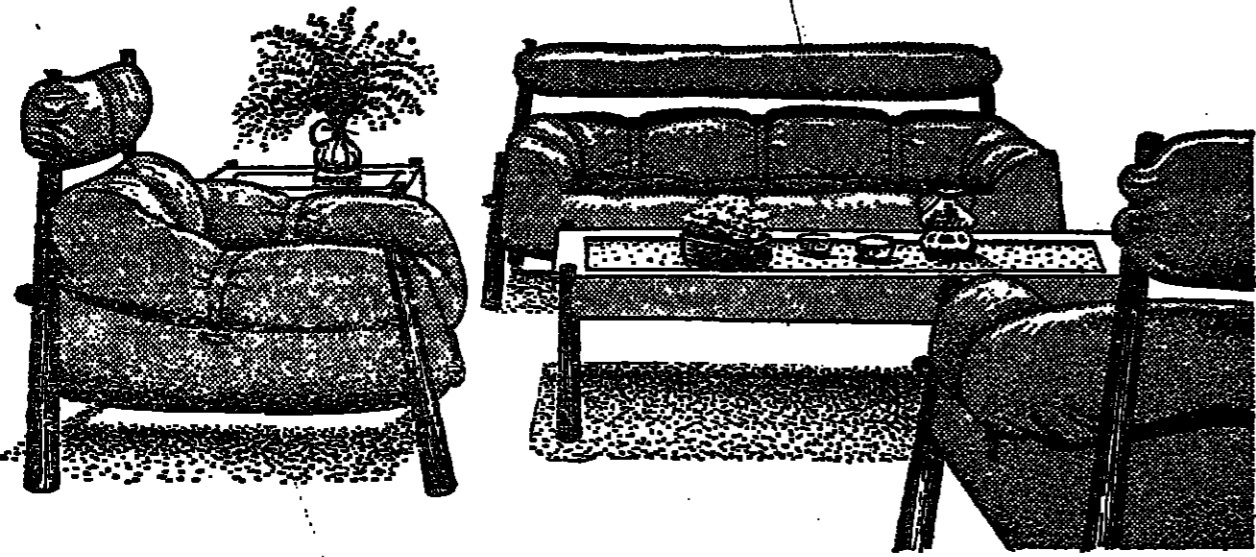
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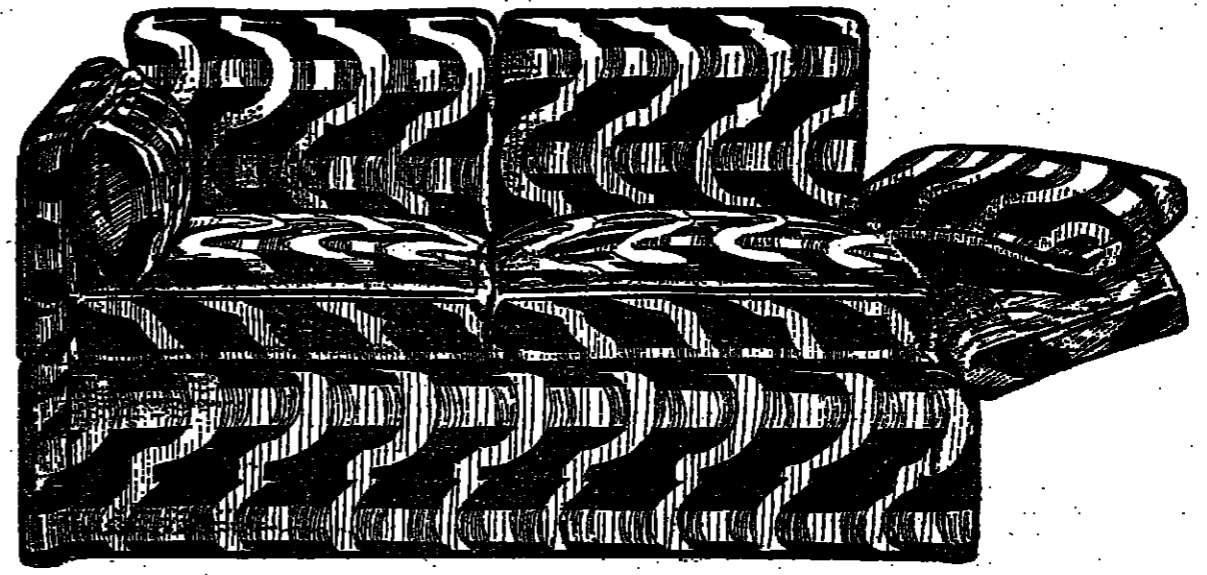
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They could not trust the King

The case for impeachment, by Louis Heren



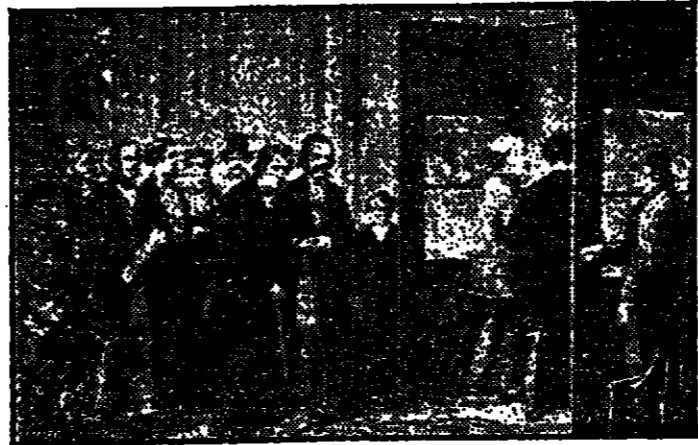
"Unfortunate man," exclaimed Thaddeus Stevens in the House on March 2, 1868, addressing his words to President Johnson, "thus surrounded, hampered, snared in the meshes of his own wickedness—unfortunate, unhappy man, behold your doom."



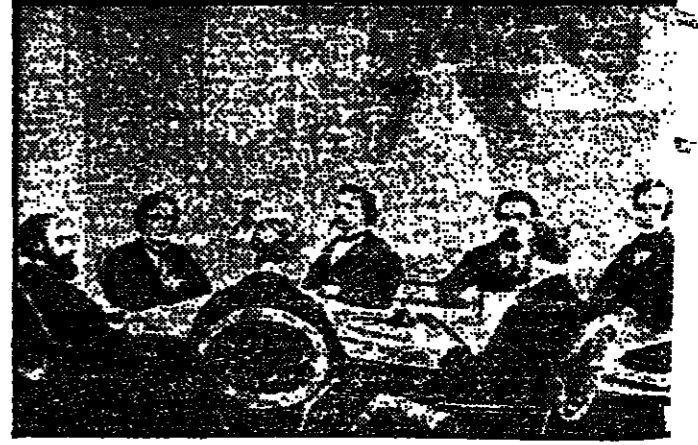
In the Rotunda of the Capitol spectators hold excited discussions during the impeachment trial of President Johnson.



The Ladies' Gallery of the Senate: wives of Congressmen and famous guests follow the happenings on the floor.



The House Committee managing the impeachment of the President enters the Senate to present the indictment.



Impeachment committee preparing the indictment. Left to right: Ward, Stevens, Wilson, Logan, Bontwell, Julian, Bingham.

Engravings published at the time of the impeachment of President Andrew Johnson in: Top, Harper's Weekly March 21, 1868. Above, left to right: Frank Leslie's Illustrated News April 4, 1868; Harper's Weekly April 18, 1868; Frank Leslie's Illustrated News March 21, 1868; Harper's Weekly March 21, 1868.

The office of the President of the United States is very much a monarchy for all its democratic origins and restraints. Hence the respect, even reverence, for the office if not necessarily for the incumbent, and the initial reluctance of the American majority to contemplate the impeachment of President Nixon. For some impeachment is a kind of regicide.

The enormous power which has accrued to the office over the years is part of the explanation, but more is involved. Paradoxically the office is more kingly because it is elective. The President receives his mandate direct from the people. He is the embodiment of "We the People of the United States". Unlike Britons, Americans share the majesty of the office.

Elizabeth Drew put it another way in the *New Yorker*: "Societies need unifying symbols, and the Presidency has been ours. We cling to the idea that the Presidency is worthy of our respect, because we want it to be... Our wellbeing is involved with it. In Mr Nixon's frequent reminders that he is the President, he speaks to something in us."

It was not always so; certainly not in the long years of Congressional ascendancy, or at the beginning. Many delegates to the Constitutional Convention in 1787 believed that "the executive magistracy was the natural enemy, the legislative assembly the natural friend of liberty". Their Anglo-American from their Anglo-American front. They had got rid of one king and did not want another, and they were afraid that a powerful President could become a monarch.

A majority of those who

signed the Constitution were cultivated eighteenth-century English gentlemen. Six were born in Britain. They were well aware of the struggle of Parliament in the previous century to curb the powers of the king's ministers, a struggle which they had fought to the finish only a few years before.

They were no less aware that impeachment had been used to curb those powers since the fourteenth century. Some of the prerogative colonial constitutions had provided for the impeachment of royal officials. It was inevitable that they should preserve this medieval instrument in what was to prove to be the first and greatest of modern written constitutions.

According to Raoul Berger*, the very terms of impeachment written into the Constitution were lifted bodily from English law. But they made some changes, the most vital being that they replaced an unimpeachable king with an impeachable President.

For all the importance they attached to impeachment, it has been used sparingly. The House of Representatives has only impeached 12 officials, and the Senate has tried 11 and convicted four, all of them judges, between 1787 and 1936.

The first to be impeached was Senator William Blount of Tennessee in 1797 for conspiring to excite the Cree and Cherokee Indians against the King of Spain. The Senate dismissed the impeachment on the grounds that Blount was not a civil officer within the meaning of the Constitution, but expelled him from office.

Eight judges were impeached

and tried on charges ranging from drunkenness to falsifying expense accounts and evading income tax. William Belknap, a Secretary of War, had already resigned when he was impeached and tried for accepting kickbacks. All of them could have been dealt with in another place.

Impeachment also generated political conflict, and partisanship was often blatant, especially in the proceedings against the only President to be impeached and tried. In 1868 the main charge against Andrew Johnson was violation of the Tenure of Office Act after he had suspended Edwin Stanton, the Secretary of War. The Act was of doubtful constitutionality, and was eventually declared null and void by the Supreme Court, but the essential purpose was political: how to deal with the defeated South after the Civil War and the control of the Republican party.

The House, voting along strict partisan lines, impeached him on February 24. The trial in the Senate began on March 30, and the first vote, on the eleventh article of impeachment, was taken on May 11. It failed by one vote, cast by a conservative Republican because Johnson's successor in office would have been a radical Republican. The Senate adjourned as a court of impeachment until May 26 when the second and third articles were put to the vote. Both failed by a single vote again, and the Senate abandoned the remaining articles.

One of the floor managers at the time said: "The world in after times will read the history

of the administration of Andrew Johnson as an illustration of the depth to which political and official perfidy can descend." Certainly the radical Republicans, for all the assumed righteousness of their cause, committed a grave constitutional offence by trying to get rid of a President because they disagreed with his policies.

This was not the intention of the framers of the Constitution, although they had anticipated such misuse. Madison, writing in *The Federalist*, No 48, said: "They seem never to have recollected the danger from legislative usurpations." Legislative trials, which is what impeachment is, invites such usurpations of course, and for long after Congress was loath to consider presidential impeachment.

The entire process was also seen to be an anachronism. Critics pointed out that the last impeachment in Britain was in 1806. Amendments were proposed, but unfortunately were rejected because the situation in Britain had become entirely different. Impeachment had not been dropped there because it was a blunt and cruel instrument—witness the impeachment and trial of Warren Hastings—but because ministers had become accountable to Parliament.

Impeachment had become an anachronism in Britain but not in the United States. The Constitution had reversed this historical process across the Atlantic. In separating powers and making the Presidency and Congress coequal, the framers had made possible the emergence of the modern King-President. The medieval instru-

ment of impeachment has become a vital part of the system of checks and balances. Anglo-American history has now turned full circle with Watergate, and one shudders to think what would have happened if impeachment had been repealed. Consider for a moment the calendar of crimes, committed, alleged or contemplated in connexion with the affair. It includes conspiracy, breaking and entering, bribery, perjury, lying to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, illegal wiretapping, suborning a witness, contempt of court, contempt of Congress, destruction of evidence, violations of campaign financing regulations, blackmail, falsifying government documents, income tax violations, defrauding the United States, embezzlement, extortion, slander, libel, malicious mischief, intercepting mail, flight to avoid prosecution and theft.

Most Americans could hardly credit this until the Ervin Committee was convened. Then the hearings established by television in every living room across the land that the couriers of the modern King-President behaved, as did the ministers of those early English kings, that they were not accountable. They were convinced that any act was excusable, even murder, if performed for the President and national security.

The courts are now dealing with them, but they only acted for the President. Apart from what may emerge from the investigation of the federal special prosecutor, he must be held responsible but under the American system he cannot be

voted out of office. According to the Constitution he will remain in the White House until midday, January 20, 1977.

This could be an impossible situation if it was not for impeachment. The only alternative is resignation. A number of Americans, fearful of the consequences of impeachment, have urged him to resign. The most persuasive has been Senator Buckley, the Republican junior senator from New York.

"I don't think many of us have seriously considered what an impeachment trial would be like in the era of mass electronic communications. Public opinion would compel the proceedings to be televised. For three months or more the Senate chamber would be transformed into a stage set for the greatest melodrama ever conceived. History would come to a stop for the duration—in the country and throughout the world. The ruler of the mightiest nation on earth would be stared as the prisoner in the dock. The chamber would become a 20th-century Roman Colosseum as the performers are thrown to the electronic lions."

The President does not have to appear before Congress. He can be represented by lawyers, as was Andrew Johnson. Impeachment proceedings do not have to be televised. Indeed, television cameras are rarely allowed in Congress except for brief and formal occasions such as the State of the Union Message, but camera crews and commentators outside would certainly broadcast the proceedings. They could be

painful and divisive, but oddly enough President Nixon has presented the best argument against resignation.

Speaking in Chicago in March, he said: "If the President resigned when he was not guilty of charges then every President in the future could be forced out of office by simply levelling some charges and getting the media to carry them and getting a few Congressmen and Senators who were on the other side to exploit them... It (would) forever change our form of government... and I will not be a party to the destruction of the Presidency."

The danger is real, as was proved by the impeachment of Andrew Johnson, and there are further positive arguments against resignation. The manner of former Vice-President Agnew's going left a nasty taste although it ensured Presidential succession. Every man, including the President and Vice-President, should stand trial if charged and Burke provided the best argument for impeachment when opening the case against Warren Hastings.

"It is by this tribunal that statesmen who abuse their power are accused by statesmen, and tried by statesmen, not upon the niceties of a narrow jurisprudence, but upon the enlarged and solid principles of state morality. It is here that those who by abuse of power have violated the spirit of law can never hope for protection from any of its forms... It is here that those who have refused to conform themselves to its perfections can never hope to escape through any of its defects."

Burke would seem to be answerable, but the tramm impeachment remains. Aided coverage could only part of it. When Senator Buckley called for President Nixon's resignation, he also said: "Suppose the House articles of impeachment the Senate convicts. That would leave a sizeable, or tired minority convinced the media had headed Mr. Nixon out of office in order to upset the mandate of the vote and subvert what it lies to be the foundation of the Republic."

On the other hand, suppose the Senate, judging a H voted impeachment, fall convict. With equal certainty would lead a major ment of the constitution equally embittered and conciled, convinced that Congress had placed political expediency above its duty, either outcome hold the test promise of domestic quility."

It would not. While the *Washington Post* has well-earned Pulitzer prize for reporting Watergate burglary, and else, the fulminations of liberal ultras in the East, first condemned the Press on the flimsiest evidence, finally left an impression Mr. Nixon was a victim of hatred. They did a disservice not only to the Republic, but those whose duty it has been to investigate the charges.

Fortunately, the American institutions and legal procedure have survived the tests. For all its Southern corn

Continued on opposite



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Photograph by Zoe Domin...

John Dexter plays Pygmalion plain

Next Thursday Pygmalion plain returns to the West End after a long absence; no lyrics, no music, just Shaw, Diana Rigg and Alec McCowen head the cast, with John Dexter directing; that is the kind of combination more likely to be encountered in the Waterloo Road than in St Martin's Lane. Dexter agrees that he first thought of Pygmalion for the National...

Despite Dexter's close ties with certain writers—Arnold Wesker and Peter Shaffer head the list—as well as a number of actors, surprisingly he has never had a company of his own. That will change, however, when he takes up his new appointment in New York as Director of Productions of the Met...

John Higgins

SOUTH BANK CONCERT HALLS

Director: John Denton CBE. Tickets: 828 3191. Telephone bookings not accepted on Saturdays. Information 828 0272. For programme when postal bookings have already been made 828 2272. Postal applications must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Sun. 12 May 7.30 p.m. ROYAL PHILHARMONIC. Rudolf Kempe. Music Director. ALL SEATS SOLD.

Tue. 14 May 8 p.m. LONDON SYMPHONY. Erich Leinsdorf. Music Director. London Symphony Orchestra Ltd. £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 50p

Wed. 15 May 8 p.m. PHILHARMONIC. Valter Dussell. Music Director. Norman McCann Ltd. £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 50p

Thu. 16 May 8 p.m. NEW PHILHARMONIA. Bernard Glass. Music Director. New Philharmonia Orchestra Ltd. £2.50, £2.00, £1.50 (ALL OTHERS SOLD)

Fri. 17 May 8 p.m. LONDON JUNIOR AND SENIOR ORCHESTRAS. Yehudi Menuhin. Music Director. Ernest Road Music Association. £1.50, £1.00, 50p

Sun. 19 May 3.15 p.m. KENT COUNTY YOUTH ORCHESTRA. Rita & Cliffray. Music Director. Kent County Council. £1.50, £1.00, 70p, 50p

Sun. 19 May 7.30 p.m. SYMPHONY. Erich Leinsdorf. Music Director. London Symphony Orchestra Ltd. £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 50p

Mon. 20 May 7.30 p.m. INSURANCE ORCHESTRA. Maurice Hill. Music Director. Insurance Orchestral Society. £1.00, 50p, 20p, 40p

Tue. 21 May 8 p.m. PHILHARMONIC. Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos. Music Director. New Philharmonia Orchestra Ltd. £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 50p

Wed. 22 May 8 p.m. BACH CHOIR. David Willcocks. Music Director. Thomas Chamber Orchestra. £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

Thu. 23 May 8 p.m. LONDON SYMPHONY. André Previn. Music Director. London Symphony Orchestra Ltd. £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 50p

Fri. 24 May 8 p.m. MANO REACTA. Wilhelm Kempff. Music Director. Please note change of artist.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

Monday 13 May 7.45 p.m. GARRETT O'BRIEN Piano Recital. Garrett O'Brien. Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

Monday 13 May 8.15 p.m. PROGRAMME FOR SIX. Six young artists. Tickets: £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

Monday 13 May 8.45 p.m. WILLIAM BENNETT (Violin), GEORGE MALCOLM (Cello). Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

Wednesday 15 May 7.45 p.m. NEW LONDON ENSEMBLE. MANTONDALE SIDWELL. Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

Thursday 16 May 7.45 p.m. GEORGE MALCOLM Recital. George Malcolm. Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

Friday 17 May 7.45 p.m. LONDON BACH ORCHESTRA. MARTINDALE SIDWELL. Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

Saturday 18 May 7.45 p.m. BROMLEY PHILHARMONIC CHORUS. RANDEL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA. Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

Saturday 18 May 8.15 p.m. SALVI VAZONVI Piano Recital. Salvi Vazonvi. Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

Saturday 18 May 8.45 p.m. INEAT KRISH (Violin) and ANUBHAVI KUMAR (Cello). Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

Monday 20 May 7.45 p.m. ELIZABETH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA. GEORGE MALCOLM. Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

Tuesday 21 May 7.45 p.m. SURYA KUMARI (Violin) and KUMAR (Cello). Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

OPERETTA HIGHLIGHTS

with VALERIE MADISON. TERRY JENNINGS. RAYMOND HERINCX. Operetta to the Underworld - Overture. Operetta to the Underworld - Overture.

LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA. Conductor: MARCUS DODS. Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents

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SARAH FRANCIS oboe

PETER DICKINSON piano CUMMINGS STRING QUARTET. Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

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JOHN GEORGIADIS conductor. TEMOTRY REYNISH conductor. ANTOINETTE NORMAN mezzo. Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

ORCHESTRA OF ST. JOHN'S, SMITH SQUARE

HAROLD BAUER guest conductor. Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

THE ORCHESTRA OF THE VIENNA STATE OPERA

2 LEADERS. Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, £1.00, 75p, 50p

Table Manners Greenwich

The Churchill Play Nottingham. Charles Lewsen. Table Manners is the first of Alan Ayckbourn's trilogy in which the events of a country weekend are seen from three vantage points: the dining room, the sitting room, and the garden.

Gambon's dejected Tom perched on a dwarf chair. In the next plays I look forward to seeing Penelope Wilton...

Table Manners is the first of Alan Ayckbourn's trilogy in which the events of a country weekend are seen from three vantage points: the dining room, the sitting room, and the garden.

It was written with the resource we expect from Mr. Ayckbourn, and the direction of Eric Thompson expressed the emotional undercurrents through a wealth of apparent trivia.

In his use of obsession, Ayckbourn is like Feydeau; the characters' most earnest obsessions generate our loudest laughter.

Each of the three couples is unsatisfactorily matched, and no one's situation is improved by the end of the weekend; unless you regard the harbouring of illusion concerning oneself and whomever one desires or thinks one desires, as satisfactory.

It is acted with special wit by Penelope Keith, who endows Sarah with a wealth of self regarding ticks. Tom Courtenay alternates between rolling sarcasm's eyes at the ladies and handing out cheerful badinage to the men.

With his vaguely specified sketch of totalitarianism, Mr. Brenton offers a hazier view of the order that subsisted 'before England fell apart' (and in Richard Eyre's production, 'Puppet on a String' replaced 'God Save the Queen').

Mr Brenton is clearly suggesting that our society is moving towards totalitarianism, and I think he is implying that Churchill bears some direct responsibility for this, though the only charges he prefers against him are that he sent in soldiers against Welsh miners in 1919 and that he patronizes a working class couple bereft of home in the blitz.

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Adele Leigh's return

La Vie Parisienne Theatre Royal, Brighton. William Mann. Offenbach's operetta about Paris on the eve of the 1867 exhibition used to be in the Sadler's Wells Opera repertoire and will be revived for the benefit of Brighton...

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ENTERTAINMENTS also on pages 10 and 11

ROYAL ALBERT HALL Kensington SW7 2AP

TUESDAY NEXT, 14 MAY at 7.30 p.m. LEOPOLD STOKOWSKI NEW PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

MERRY WAITS KLEMPERER TALLIS FANTASIA VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

MASSED BANDS SPECTACULAR BAND OF THE ROYAL ARTILLERY BAND OF THE BLUES AND ROYALS

FRIDAY, 31 MAY at 7.30 p.m. ROD MCKUEN IN CONCERT

SUNDAY, 2 JUNE at 7.30 Overture: Barber of Seville ROSSINI

FESTIVAL OF THE CITY OF LONDON Artistic Director: Ian Hunter 1st-13th JULY, 1974

Royal Opera House THE ROYAL OPERA May 21, 23, 29 at 8 Benjamin Britten's OWEN WINGRAVE

GLYNDEBOURNE FESTIVAL OPERA 1974 with the LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET Season extended to June 8 Today Matinee: Pique de Lumiere, Summer Solstice

LONDON COLISEUM St. Martin's Lane, W.C.2. Tel: 01-335 3151

CINEMAS LONDON, MAY 11-12, 1974

ART EXHIBITIONS AGORRA: The Sculpture Art Open 11

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STOOSHOFF FINE ART 45 Brook Street, W.1

ART EXHIBITIONS WHITECHAPEL ART GALLERY, 11th St. E.1

Two major exhibitions opened this week, one in London, and the other in Brighton. Jeffery Daniels discusses 'George III, Collector and Patron'



Moses Receiving the Law, by Castiglione

A kinder view of George III The new exhibition, at the Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, draws attention to an unfamiliar aspect of a monarch often dismissed as an obstinate booby in his youth and a pathetic wreck in old age.

Such artificiality was not to George III's own taste, and even in the decoration of his apartments he preferred simplicity to profusion, although the astronomical clocks for which he had a passion were encased in magnificent structures of rare woods decorated with gilt bronze.

Inspiration beside the seaside

An excellent loan exhibition of sea pictures at a festival of this year's Brighton Festival. Organized by Peyton Skipwith of the Fine Art Society and presented on behalf of the Brighton Festival Society at the Brighton Polytechnic's Grand Parade, from now until May 19, the exhibition consists of British paintings of sea and seashore by artists who had gained a stimulus from the Impressionist movement.



Nicholson's The Brig, 1906, from the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art

ART EXHIBITIONS WHITECHAPEL ART GALLERY, 11th St. E.1 (Admission 20p)

William Gaunt Above: Beach Scene, Dieppe, by Charles Conder, from Sheffield City Art Galleries.

Handwritten note in Arabic script.

When an Englishman's stately home is his liability

Troupes of holiday neighbours hourly chase me from my apartments or strolling around the lawns keep me prisoner... The eighteenth-century equivalent of the day tripper was not welcome at Lord Lytton's home at Cobham Hall in 1778.

Nearly 200 years later stately home owners might privately commiserate with the complaints but none the less welcome much more. The arrival of mass motoring and the cost of maintaining Britain's great houses has turned a nuisance initiated by enterprising servants in the harassed lord's time into a business worth £20m to £25m per year.

Lord Bath said death duties made him go public but many other owners place the blame on the cost of keeping their homes literally afloat. Some have taken government grants towards renovation and the money comes with a requirement to open for a given number of days each year.

For other less fortunate owners the pennies from the public help to maintain the fabric. Ragley Hall received grants of over £100,000 but it still costs £20,000 to run the place with incidentals like £100 a time to clean the windows.

Owners of lesser homes look at Beaulieu and Woburn and shudder. Lord Montagu estimates his annual running costs at six figures. Faced with this it is little wonder owners will turn water ski demonstrations as did the Marquess of Hertford or welcome nudists as did the Duke of Bedford.

George Hutchinson Can Mr Powell resist the Ulster road back?

Not all of Mr Enoch Powell's friends and well-wishers are best pleased by the prospect that he may choose to return to Westminster via Ulster. They are fretting not so much because they would prefer him to represent an English constituency (a Welsh one would be equally acceptable) as his family originated in Radnorshire, but because they recognize the political danger to Mr Powell of excessive involvement in Northern Ireland.

ingly successful one. Woolton supplied the organization. Under the policies. Without them, the Tories might not have been returned to office in 1951, Churchill or no Churchill.



At present Lord Carrington is chairman of the party. Sir Michael Fraser (soon to be Lord Fraser of Somervere—somehow in Aberdeenshire, I dare say) is chairman of the Research Department.

The quiet men with a President's future in their hands

Mr Peter Rodino is short, tubby, silver-haired and happy. Mr John Doer is tall, thin, saturnine, and appears to be sunk in perpetual melancholy. The Abner and Costello are involved in the business, sometimes put themselves on show.

Mr Rodino has more secrets in his safe than anyone in Washington, including the special prosecutor on K Street, but he never leaks any of them.

Political minefield of divorce Italian style

Tomorrow and Monday, the Italian electorate will emerge from one of the more grotesque experiences inflicted on a long-suffering public by finally going to the polls to decide whether or not divorce should continue to be allowed.

Senator Fanfani saw chance both to tighten up within his own divided party and take advantage of the Communist difficulties by negotiating an agreement to negotiate the referendum (in fact would have extremely difficult) and fighting instead a pompous anti-communism campaign.

His position as chairman of one of the more important congressional committees came by the accident of seniority. He was elected in 1968, in Newark, an Italian among the Italians, and elected to Congress in 1948. He worked himself up the judicial committee, supporting every liberal cause that came his way and when the inhabitants of Brooklyn abruptly and surprisingly dumped 64-year-old Emanuel Celler, Mr Peter Rodino stepped into his place.

With impeachment resolutions raining down, the Democratic leadership assigned Celler to his committee on October 23. Standing at Mr Carl Albert's side in the Speaker's chamber he ventured it was "a task I hoped would not be necessary". It was confidently predicted he would make a hash of it.

Sportsview

Buchanan boxes clever in the fight business

"Behind all the glitter, British boxing's got just about as many troubles as Fleet Street", reflected a colleague gloomily last month. "All we've really got is Ken Buchanan and he never fights here, anyway."



Ken Buchanan: battered and bruised, but he put on his hat and coat and walked off alone.



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THE CAUSES OF CORRUPTION

Short's letter which we today contain a denial he knew at the relevant time in 1963 that Mr. Dan had any connection with us; that denial is, of course, quite answer to the charge Mr. Short himself should recognize that his support for Cruden's contract might be associated with his acceptance of payment from Mr. T. Dan. The letter read as a whole shows something else; it shows how easily a serious politician can come to be connected with affairs which are disquieting.

Times has not been untidy about the recent scandal or pseudo-scandal that has arisen in political life. We have been critical and enquiring; we could not have been so serious about Mr. Wilson's notes, or Mr. Short or Mr. King, or even Mr. Nixon, let alone Mr. Braddock as *The Times* probably have been at other times in the paper's history. It is not because we become insensitive to the blurb of corruption, though we try to keep a sense of relative values. Even knowingly corrupt actions are to be preferred to those who murder their colleagues, or burn Chief Justices in Land Rovers. Yet corruption remains a great evil, and even the retention which consists in giving corrupt friends has a moral offence committed. In considering any individual case one has to recognize we live in a period propitious to corruption. In the first place we are in decline; fewer believe in absolute standards than at any time in our history; they believe in absolute religious standards, nor in absolute moral standards. As a result children are not taught there is a real difference between right and wrong; hence, sexual licence, drug use, major thefts and petty crimes like shoplifting are all on

the increase—so far as statistics show—and in all countries, except probably China.

In an age of looser morality and softer disciplines, a dishonest, or less honest, people cannot expect to be governed by a political class who will alone retain the old standards of probity, let alone the old standards of appropriate complicity. If the Leader of the Labour Party was introduced to Mr. Milnech, the Deputy Leader of the Labour Party was a friend of Mr. T. Dan Smith and Mr. Maudling was a colleague of Mr. Poindexter, they were exposed to a risk, from which no one can really be immune. They are being people, because there are a lot of funny people around.

The deterioration of standards is the result also of strong social and economic influences. What are its virtues—real or pretended—socialism tends to be demoralizing to the individual. Socialism believes in the power of the state and in redistributive taxation. Any increase in the power of the state increases the motive to corruption, because the wealth to be had from the state becomes disproportionate to what the individual can win for himself. The impersonality of the state is corrupting. Everyone who has served in the forces knows that what is everybody's property is nobody's property; men will cheat the state who would not cheat an individual, because they feel that no particular person will suffer.

Socialism is also a financial attack on the individual. When Mr. Healey announces with relish that he will make the rich howl with anguish, what response does he expect? Of course the response that he gets is that he is seen as the enemy of the taxpayer, as an unjust judge in the nation's affairs, and that his edicts will be avoided if they possibly can be. He destroys the consent to taxation. It is inevitable that this sort of socialism will breed contempt for law; if the taxpayer sees himself as threatened by confiscatory taxation on an inflated income, and by a man who makes a boast of his personal pleasure in grading taxation, he will fight back.

Yet the most powerful engine of corruption is inflation. Every period of inflation in human history has been corrupted, whether one thinks of the decadence of Berlin in the 1920s, or the chaos of France in the 1950s. Inflation creates fictitious hopes, and great suffering matches by enormous speculative wealth. Inflation disappoints legitimate expectations and frustrates the ordinary financial planning of the individual, while enormous debts are incurred because still higher prices are expected. This state of fear, false expectation, uncertainty and indebtedness becomes almost general; only successful speculation pays, while the qualities on which society depends, which are essentially work and thrift, are consistently defrauded. You cannot systematically defraud society by circulating bad money without systematically corrupting society as well.

In an inflation each person comes to believe that his neighbour may be profiting at his expense; different classes become embittered and hostile; trade unions fall into the hands of the centralists and agitators, and the work of rational trade union administrators is constantly undermined; the middle class find themselves squeezed between rising prices and rising taxes, with only the inflation in the value of their houses to compensate for their financial difficulties.

In such circumstances men do yield to temptation; their sense of honesty is destroyed, their careers are destroyed. Others are almost equally damaged by their friends and colleagues yielding to temptation, even though they have not given way themselves. It is part of the troubles of our time, for, like inflation, corruption is world-wide. Yet it is not good to hope that we can have those institutions, the socialist state, the overpowered bureaucracy, the attack on individual savings, the attack on individual earnings, the circulation of bad money, which have always undermined the honesty of society in the past, and not have to face the corruption which has been their natural consequence throughout man's history.

Mr Edward Short's reply on relationship with Mr Dan Smith

From Mr Edward Short, Labour MP for Newcastle upon Tyne, Central. Sir, I refer to your long leader in *The Times* of May 7. Stripped of its verbiage, the hard core of your accusation is to be found in the twentieth paragraph. In this you allege that I used my best endeavours on behalf of the Crudens contract on at least three separate occasions, two of them when I was acting specifically as a Member of Parliament, without disclosing that I had accepted an offer of money from a public relations firm although I may have known that the firm, or its principal, was acting for Crudens. This is not true.

The way in which you set out the sequence of events is designed to mislead. I am sorry to say that I was paid by Mr Smith to use my influence to ensure that a contract with a firm in which he had an interest was awarded to that firm. You quote three instances in which I am supposed to have used my "best endeavours" on behalf of the Crudens contract. My letter to the Housing Minister (dated May 28, 1963, not May 31, 1963, as you state); my question in the House on June 28, 1963, and my article in the *Newcastle Evening Chronicle* dated July 5, 1963.

With regard to the question which I asked Sir Keith Joseph on June 18, 1963, a simple reading of *House of Commons Debates*, Volume 27, columns 21 and 22, would confirm that in fact I told the Minister that he might have been right in refusing loan sanction to the scheme on planning grounds, but that I asked him to confirm that the essential difference between him and the Council on the scheme was a scheme, was one of differing judgment, and on this basis I implied that the Council knew more than the Minister—a point of view which all Conservative Members would always take, and that it was urgent to rehouse 300 families.

With regard to the letter of May 28, 1963, the first point I made was the desirability of the Minister in making his decision public to Conservative Members of Parliament before he had informed the Corporation itself. I added that I regarded the decision itself as part of a long history of obstacles placed in the path of the local authority in its attempts to rebuild its slum areas.

The purpose of the article in the *Newcastle Evening Chronicle* dated July 5, 1963, was to explain the

meaning of a negotiated contract. In connexion with the decision on the award of the contract, I added "whether they (ie, the Council) were right in their decision or not is a matter of judgment—but nothing more".

You implied that these three instances show that I attempted to obtain the contract for Crudens. They do not, no point did I myself give any opinion on the merits of the Crudens tender. They do show that my concern was that a desperately needed housing contract, to the best of my knowledge properly awarded by the local authority, should be speedily implemented to provide urgently needed housing.

The rest of the evidence you quote is designed to show that Mr Smith had an interest in Crudens; that he used his influence with the local authority to get the contract for Crudens; that the contract was therefore improperly awarded, and finally, that since Mr Smith's interest in Crudens was public knowledge, I must have known it. The implication is again that I was concerned in the award of an improper contract.

To take each part of this allegation in turn, at no time has any-one been able to produce evidence that there was any impropriety in the award of the contract to Crudens. It is certainly inconceivable that Sir Keith Joseph would have allowed the matter to pass without a request to accept the Cruden tender. A partner in JKT told me yesterday that Mr Smith was never employed by their firm.

I myself did not know in 1963 that there was any connection between Mr Smith and Crudens. What I did know was that at the Labour Group meeting in July 1963, Mr Smith denied emphatically to his colleagues that he had any interest at all in Crudens. Councillor Walter Wilson who was present confirmed this to me only this week, and added that Mr Smith threatened to sue anyone

who alleged that he had such a connection.

The detail of Mr Smith's interest in Crudens is and was obscure. You are correct in stating that Mr Smith declared an interest in Crudens at a meeting of the Housing Committee in July 1962. You are incorrect in implying that this interest existed via the firm JKT. It was, I am told, a small painting contract that Mr Smith's decorating company held from Crudens. In February 1963, as you state, Mr Smith established another interest when his firm Cladan started work for Crudens, an interest which he did not declare at the time.

I myself did not know of either interest. I was naturally not present at the meeting of the Housing Committee in July 1962, and the minutes of the meeting which record the declaration were not available other than to the committee members. The fact that Mr Smith was able to deny any interest in Crudens at the July meeting of the Labour Group in 1963, a year after the declared interest, and five months after the start of the Cladan contract is surely evidence enough that Mr Smith's close Council colleagues were unaware of the position. In these circumstances it is all the more unlikely that I myself could have known of it.

In my extremely limited intervention in the Crudens Affair I had one motive and one motive only. It was to help my constituents. Most people who do not know the area cannot possibly imagine the conditions in which most of my constituents were living in the early 1960s. Their housing was probably the worst slums in England; rotten, sinking houses often without windows, infested by rats, damp and decaying.

The final result of the long drawn out dispute over these contracts was that the rehousing of some hundreds of them was delayed for almost two years, the ultimate contract was more costly and the number of housing units was reduced by 19. I make no apology at my anger over this fiasco, which should have been ashamed not to have been in these circumstances. I acted in perfectly good faith in the interests of my own people and I hope that I shall always do so.

Yours sincerely,
EDWARD SHORT,
House of Commons,
May 9.

Role of the Navy in peace

From Mr M. B. F. Rankin. Sir, in these days of accelerating retrenchment in our defence commitments it is indeed heartening to read today (May 9) that the Navy's hydrographic survey vessels are extending their assistance and support of marine scientific research into sectors of knowledge vital to this country's potential self-sufficiency in energy resources.

But the fighting fleet itself, together with its many unique shore establishments, is the repository of much else in marine science, technology, engineering and above all seamanship (and armanship) of the sea. It is the repository of the skills of the many new peacetime activities in the sea, oil and gas, sand and gravel, deep diving, recreation and the rest. These and revolutionary changes in maritime transport and world fisheries also bring with them many new commitments which other branches of government are increasingly unequipped to fulfil.

Surely the time is now ripe for these priceless national assets to be redeployed as national academies for the benefit both of peaceful activities and defence preparedness. If at the same time new roles emerge for the fleet at sea in closer support of the civil power, this can only be to the benefit of the navy itself and of the country as a whole.

A corollary of this should of course be that more convenient procedures be made for the facilities provided on a straight-forward commercial basis, now entrenched as the "Rothschild Principle".

Such payments received should help to offset the drastic cuts expected to follow the re-appraisal now in hand of our worldwide defence commitments. Substantial cuts or the closure of any major establishments could well prove irreversible, since expert teams of scientists and engineers once disbanded cannot readily be reconstructed and much past experience is inevitably lost.

Yours faithfully,
M. B. F. RANKIN,
3 Redlynch Court,
70 Addison Road, W14,
May 6.

Hydrographic survey

From Rear Admiral Sir Edmund Irving. Sir, I should be grateful if you would allow me a few words in amplification of the Hydrographer of the Navy's welcome letter (*The Times*, May 6) which discloses the Royal Navy's plans to undertake a comprehensive geophysical survey of the United Kingdom continental shelf.

There are however, two further points mentioned in my letter of January 15, which call for urgent action. As I understand, the geophysical survey will be drawn with a fairly broad brush which will be of limited value for hydrographic purposes, and no mention is made of oceanographic research.

There are equally pressing reasons for a thorough hydrographic survey of our waters to improve the charts which are largely dependent on lead-line surveys of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Not is a great deal of hydrographic work, physical properties of these waters despite the good work of our modern scientists.

To have to return to distant waters later on in order to fill in the close bathymetry and to obtain further material for the Hydrographer is costly and relatively wasteful effort—and the delay will, of course, affect the eventual revision and publication of Admiralty charts.

Unless the Hydrographer is able to expand his resources (as I have suggested) in order to cope with these increasing tasks, I propose that the hydrographic and oceanographic surveys are put out to contract under his supervision. Then, and only then, will the Hydrographer's work be shown to support the national economy and seaborne trade.

Yours faithfully,
E. G. IRVING,
Camer Green,
Meopham, Kent
May 9.

Stranded in Portugal

From Julian Tennant. Sir, Having at last returned from the south of Portugal with six children and two other adults at considerable cost, one can but say how sad one is at the lack of support given to British subjects by Britain today.

Last week in the south of Portugal were a number of British people, many with children, who had run out of money and accommodation. As a result many attempts failed to contact either the British Consul, or the Vice-Consul, in the Algarve.

I did succeed in talking on the telephone to the British Ambassador in Lisbon; he assured me that he would be quite disturbed by the predicament that many people must be in, but was, in fact, as helpful as a dose of salts to a man dying from dysentery.

Had Her Majesty's Government sent out two or three aeroplanes to Faro airport, an easy enough thing to do, to pick up the stranded British subjects, there would have been no opposition. British people would have been greatly assisted and it might also have helped, in a small way, to destroy the feeling one senses too frequently when abroad that as Great Britain is now of no consequence it doesn't matter how the British are treated.

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN TENNANT,
Meat House,
Great Easton,
Dunmow, Essex.
April 30.

For distressed taxpayers

From Mr D. F. Hellings. Sir, I was with mixed feelings that I received this morning a familiar buff envelope from the Inland Revenue at Worthing with the envelope franked "Distress—Despair: Ring the Samaritans!"

Yours faithfully,
D. F. HELLINGS,
Palmer Common House,
Fulmer,
Buckinghamshire,
May 9.

DECISION FOR ITALY

Two years ago it seemed clear republicanism Italy, like Gaul, had decided to "marry her fury". She had modernized industry at breakneck speed, had thrown herself with usiasm into the European community, and conquered markets all over Europe alarming dynamism. Her facts, film-makers and poets were the envy of the world. She also boasted the world's most liberal and intended Communist Party, one of its most imaginative vigorous trade union movements. She had a Centre Left movement of progressive, which was beginning to le the vast backlog of social ills. Her collective mentality shaking itself free from the age of a Catholic Church which itself was undergoing a renaissance. When in 1970 a new law at last reached the streets and the Christian Democrats appeared more formal than "left".

Admittedly this would have an optimistic summary. The picture could have been painted with rather more emphasis on the shadows: the wide-

spread corruption, the intolerable slowness of reform, the growing violence of left and right-wing extremists, the poverty and depopulation of the south, the fears of a revival of fascism. Even so it would hardly have prepared us for the picture that we see today. The dynamism of industry and that of the trade union movement seem to have cancelled each other out, and today much of Italian industry is close to bankruptcy. Instead of riding the wave of European expansion, the Italians are heading the suicidal scramble towards national bankruptcy after being the first to break the monetary ranks they have now set a new and dangerous precedent with their unilateral import surcharges.

The architects, film-makers and designers are still there, of course, but mostly looking older and rather tired. The Communist Party appears to have lost its nerve. By offering an "historic compromise" which the Christian Democrats have treated with contempt it has succeeded only in compromising itself. The Centre Left government, patched together again last year after eighteen months of futile sparing between Socialism and Christian Democrats, has almost ceased to believe in reform and

is at present reduced to awkward silence while its component parties campaign against each other on television and in the country. The Christian Democrats, the Vatican and almost the whole Catholic hierarchy have dedicated themselves, with surprising unanimity and with the enthusiastic support of the neo-nazis, to the repeal of the divorce law in tomorrow's referendum.

Whether the Italians want a divorce law is of course for them to decide—and it is to be hoped they will succeed in doing so lucidly. In spite of the inverted form in which the question is put, and in spite of the deplorably misleading propaganda to which they have been subjected. But few Christians in this country, few Catholics even, would wish to impose their beliefs by law on fellow-citizens who did not share them. And few Catholics can feel very proud of the attitude of the Italian hierarchy, which opposes civil divorce while allowing expensive religious annulments, on the most various and often casuistical grounds, without making any legal provision for wives and children thereby deprived of support.

Subsidies for the arts

From Mr David Rymer. Sir, Both Mr Patrick Gibson (April 30) and Lord Drogbeda (May 3) have touched in correspondence recently upon the provision of greater subsidy for the arts. This prompts me to put forward some views on behalf of the regional theatre, which are faced with some unusual pressures at present.

Regional repertory theatre has traditionally relied on joint support from local government and central Government, matched with nearly 50 per cent of tickets from box office, trading and donations. Current trends towards greater community involvement in theatre has militated against the larger architectural splendour of the old houses and many such theatres are being sucked into a vortex not of their own making.

On the one hand we are encouraged to preserve the beautiful buildings which are exceedingly expensive to run and maintain. They are needed as houses for touring opera, ballet and musical companies and have great historic importance. On the other hand we must be progressive and develop new styles of more intimate drama, many of which are totally unsuited to the buildings.

Government intervention forced a cut back in local authority spending which resulted, in my own theatre's case, in a 10 per cent cut back in their grants. Here we lost much of the leeway negotiated to cut the forward looking prices. During the past two years our prices have been heavily increased but the introduction of VAT has countered much of that benefit.

There is a strong need for a complete re-appraisal of the subsidy system. While in work we have an extremely enlightened approach from the local authority in other

authorities where I have experience as a board member, local government support may result in a dictation of expenditure on films and popular policies to the theatre. The role of central Government is critical in order to encourage and control a national policy for the arts, to ensure that the development and future is not stifled by local government intervention to an electorate concerned largely with rates.

As an individual I have never subscribed to the view that the arts should be a bottomless pit for public money. I believe that sooner or later a number of centres of excellence receiving public money are inevitable. It may well be that public money would be better invested in a large scale subsidy of transport, thus enabling users of all communal facilities to benefit equally from a number of centres of excellence where they would be clustered and consistently attract capacity use. At the same time generous national subsidy must be given to preserve excellence for a limited number of major national and regional ventures. The proper role for the local authority would then be to support community involvement through arts centres and similar enterprises.

My plea, therefore, is for an immediate massive increase in general national subsidy to allow more realistic and visionary artistic policies. At the same time I urge consideration of a new policy for the dispersal of the subsidy working out the absolute responsibilities of central Government and the local authorities.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID RYMER,
Chairman,
York Theatre Royal,
St Leonard's Place,
York,
May 6.

BBC documentary on the General Strike

From Mr Paul Rotha. Sir, Implication is a dangerous quality of the visual film image especially in juxtaposition with other visual images and overlaid with the spoken word. As a filmmaker, I am sure you know that almost any meaning can be given to visual images by associated spoken words. A famous example was a pre-war cameraman's lucky and spectacular shot of a factory chimney stack being severed by a shell; the same shot appeared first in a newsreel of the Spanish Civil War, only to reappear some years later in a newsreel of the Soviet invasion of Finland!

While I readily accept Mrs Elizabeth Sussex's (May 2) scrupulous honesty in finding archive material relevant to the General Strike in 1926—so far as I know she did not actually edit this compilation BBC film; she only found its archive footage—I appreciate that she is generous to accept blame if not to share it. I maintain that the blame there is, I maintain that the implication given to the audience by the film was that the shots in question were of unemployed miners at the time of the General Strike and not the tragic later years. If they had been used in a film about unemployment in Britain in the twenties and thirties, and they were originally used, well and good; but their use in a film specifically dealing with the General Strike in 1926 seems unwelcome. As Mrs Sussex's film was made by Mr Donald Alexander's memorable slough-shot, not Mr Ralph Bond's as Mrs Sussex suggests.

If your correspondence, Sir, has done something to alert the conscience of those producing historical compilation films for television, we all, the public, historians, archive curators and film-makers, will be glad of its publication.

Yours, etc.
PAUL ROTH,
140 Narbeth Drive,
Aylesbury,
Buckinghamshire,
May 2.

Cup final hymn

From Mr Michael Hinde. Sir, The recent Two Choirs Festival held at Wembley Stadium pinpointed the absurdity of one so-called "traditional" hymn on the programme. It was patently obvious that the choir were not interested in singing *Abraham, Isaac and Jacob* (and the efforts of their distinguished (and good-tempered) conductor, preferred their own folk music.

Is it not time to abandon this particular "tradition" which commands little or no respect and sadly depreciates the message of a Christian hymn?

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
MICHAEL HINDE,
Shoulders,
Hundred Acre Lane,
Westminster, Hants,
Sussex,
May 5.

Railway electrification

From Dr C. A. C. Webster. Sir, Over 50 years ago Sir Vincent Raven, then the Chief Mechanical Engineer of the North Eastern Railway, planned to electrify the main line between York and Newcastle, going so far as to build a prototype electric passenger locomotive. These plans were abandoned on the formation of the LNER. One wonders if a further 50 years is to go by before the scheme is implemented.

Yours sincerely,
C. A. C. WEBSTER, Head, Department of Computer Science,
Teesside Polytechnic,
Middlesbrough, Teesside,
May 6.

Future Tory policy

From Mr Simon Wingfield Digby. Sir, My ex-colleague Angus Maude, in his letter to you (May 7), does well to point out that controversial Socialist laws should not all be accepted by Conservatives as irreversible. While it is far from the true picture of Tory democracy to fight a kind of rear-guard action against inevitable change, not all change is "national continuity" as history shows only too clearly.

Furthermore I believe it is mistaken to retreat from the basic Tory point of view which has continued to have such a great appeal to people of moderate views in this country.

In his famous dictum, Churchill's recipe was "in defeat, defiance not cordiality". A little defiance is not a bad thing if you really feel strongly about Conservatism. The idea that it is easy for a party leader to choose the most advantageous moment for

Mobility of teachers

From Mr T. A. Bryan. Sir, Your Education Correspondent, in discussing teacher mobility (May 2), expresses surprise at the high teacher mobility shown to exist in this country. A little more research would have shown that this is not a recent manifestation and unfortunately is one which is likely to increase. The real evil is the comparative under-payment of teachers over the years. In general the schools of this country are very well planned and modern, lavishly equipped and contain pleasant children in comparatively small classes, but despite this seeming paradisaic state of affairs I, and my colleagues, suffer from increasing staff shortages and would not be able to manage without the help of married women who happen to live locally.

Over five years ago, when I was appointed to this post, the application form contained a warning that no one living outside the district would be able to move in, and this

Why could this have not been said in the first place in section 16?

I am quite happy to obey the letter of the law, but find it rather difficult to do so if I can't understand it. Perhaps that's what the parliamentarians drafted intend?

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY LEWIS,
3 Featherborough Road, SW6,
May 8.

Health risks in industry

From Mr W. P. Howard. Sir, Whatever may be the legal position regarding asbestos workers' rights to know about hazards to which they are exposed, great efforts are made to explain the facts. The larger asbestos companies have produced their own leaflets or booklets on the subject, and run special courses for their employees. In addition, this committee has published a leaflet for employees, "Asbestos and Your Health".

This, or the Government leaflet "Asbestos and You", is distributed in asbestos factories, often when the factory doctor is giving an employee his pre-employment medical examination, which also provides an opportunity for the risks to be verbally explained. In addition the Environmental Control Committee of the Asbestos Research Council is publishing a series of posters and leaflets for the employees of the asbestos industry's customers on safe work practices.

The asbestos industry would be the first to admit, by hindsight, that precautions in the distant past were inadequate. But advances in medical knowledge and sophistication of dust control techniques have made the situation in British asbestos factories today, and indeed in the recent past, one in which we take a great pride. This is an area of occupational hygiene for which we are the envy of other countries.

Yours faithfully,
W. P. HOWARD, Secretary,
The Asbestos Committee, c/o
Old Burlington Street, W1,
May 1.

Parliamentary drafting

From Mr Anthony Lewis. Sir, Can somebody please inform me of the necessity for the current trend in parliamentary drafting, which seems to seek to confound the public by means of convoluted cross-referenced legalese which I doubt very much if even the most capable lawyer can understand on first reading.

The recent Finance Bill provides one example, and the Consumer Credit Bill is another. To quote one example from the latter, section 18 (on page 7) refers to "a land improvement company". This I later discovered is defined in section 184 (91 pages later) as "an improvement company as defined by section 7 of the Improvement of Land Act 1929". Having been used in the brother of locating this earlier act, I find that an improvement company means purely and simply, a company authorised by any Act of Parliament to execute or advance money for the execution of improvements of land.

banching a currency

From Mr R. Patne Dutt. In his most informative letter on a question of the gold standard I had thrown myself, with usiasm into the European community, and conquered markets all over Europe alarming dynamism. Her facts, film-makers and poets were the envy of the world. She also boasted the world's most liberal and intended Communist Party, one of its most imaginative vigorous trade union movements. She had a Centre Left movement of progressive, which was beginning to le the vast backlog of social ills. Her collective mentality shaking itself free from the age of a Catholic Church which itself was undergoing a renaissance. When in 1970 a new law at last reached the streets and the Christian Democrats appeared more formal than "left".

Admittedly this would have an optimistic summary. The picture could have been painted with rather more emphasis on the shadows: the wide-

quiry into the press

From Mr Ian Hargraves. As Managing Editor of a group predominantly weekly newspapers I say how much I welcome the Government's decision to try and abolish certain basic standards of behaviour within the industry. It is doubtful whether a Royal Commission is the best way of doing this, there is an obvious need for a code of editorial practice—d for the public to know what it is. Anyone involved with newspapers should be aware of the cynicism with which many people currently view the actions of some of the press. The cynicism which unfortunately tends to develop into blanket trust of the whole profession of journalism. If this is to be dispelled, that newspapers can enjoy the public trust at their readers, it is the latter should understand the principles by which the former operate.

The press consistently and quite

Mr L. T. C. ROLT Transport historian

Mr L. T. C. Rolt, the transport historian, who died on Thursday at the age of 64, was a high reputation for his books on waterways, motorways, and topography and for his clutch of imaginative biographies of famous engineers...

The son of Lionel Caswell Rolt, he was born in Chester on February 11, 1910, and educated at Cheltenham College. His youth and early manhood he described in a delightful volume of autobiography called Landscape with Moles...

He was vice-president of the Newcomen Society, a member of the Science Museum Advisory Council and of the York Railway Museum Committee; an honorary MA of Newcastle at an honorary MSC of Bath.

Sir Donald Finmore, a Judge of the High Court (Queen's Bench Division) from 1948 to 1964, died yesterday. He was 84. In June 1953 at the Central Criminal Court he sentenced to death John Reginald Halliday...

Mr David Carver, OBE, who died in London yesterday at the age of 78, was responsible, as general secretary of International PEN for the last 23 years for its great growth...

Dr Walter Joffe, president of the British Psycho-Analytic Society, and consultant psychiatrist, died in London yesterday at the age of 78...

Rose Ethel Bassin, who died on April 29 at the good age of 85, having lived a rich life devoted to folk-song, the piano, Gaelic studies, and friendship.

Colonel B. S. T. Archer, C writes: Your obituary on Brigadier H. H. Bateman did him less justice; it failed to mention that he was Director of the Bomb Disposal Unit from 1945 to 1947...

Viscountess Templeton, wife of Viscount Templeton, died on Wednesday at Concord, Massachusetts. She was 78.

The dangerous gulf between pulpit and pew

By the Rev R. P. C. Hanson Professor of Theology University of Manchester. Revolutions do not always erupt like volcanoes. Sometimes they come from within the Church...

The matter is worse when we come to the New Testament, because a revolution in the treatment of the New Testament is a revolution in the Christian faith. At Christmas the columns of this paper Enoch Powell and others conducted a correspondence about the description of the inn and manger at Bethlehem in St Luke's Gospel...



COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE May 10: The Duchess of Gloucester, on behalf of the Duke, President of the Royal Humane Society, was present at the Society's 200th Anniversary Celebrations...

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE RICHMOND PARK May 10: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy this afternoon visited the grounds on the occasion of the re-opening of the reconstructed Eastern Wharf...

Her Royal Highness and the Hon Angus Ogilvy travelled in an aircraft The Queen's Flight. The Hon Lady Rowley was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales will attend the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust reunion and present medals to the fellows of 1973 at the Festival Hall on May 17.

Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, will be present at an evening party at the Royal Albert Hall on June 7 in aid of Action Research for the Crippled Child.

A memorial service for Mr Jim Conway, former General Secretary of the AEUW, will be held at St Margaret's Church, Westminster, London, W.1, on Thursday, May 16, at noon.

Life peerages

The life baronies conferred on Sir Robert Tunstall and Sir Tuffin Davy have been accepted by the names, titles and titles of Baron Trammie, of Upsall in the county of North Yorkshire, and Baron Chelwood, of Lewes in the county of East Sussex.

Birthdays today

Sir John Compton Miller, 74; Sir Percy Faulkner, 67; Sir Albert Kennedy, 68; Sir Norman Kipping, 73; Professor W. N. Medcott, 74; Mrs Carole Oman, 77; Sir Norman Tonche, 80; Hon Montague Woodhouse, MP, 57.

TOMORROW

Mr Lennox Berkeley, 71; Sir George Dunst, 67; Sir Harold Grime, 78; Lord Hilton of Harlowe, 78; Sir Norman Tonche, 80; Mr H. V. Hodson, 68; Mr Wilfrid Hyde White, 77; Professor N. Kaldor, 66; Sir David Lewis, 75; Francis Meyer, 80; Sir Norman Tonche, 80; Sir Robert Stanley, 75; Sir Charles Trinder, 68.

Science report

Botany: Plea for lilies of the field

The lily in its varied glory has long had a special place in human affections. But how much longer wild lilies will remain so will largely depend on whether they are sufficiently protected...

Today's engagements

Princess Anne attends the commissioning ceremony of HMS Amazon, Southampton docks, 12. Exhibition: Wedding dresses, the development of the white wedding dress during the past 200 years...

Tomorrow

Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century Tapestry Court, Victoria and Albert Museum, 2.30-6. Exhibition: The Maya, their art and culture, Museum of Mankind, Burlington Gardens, 2.30-5.30.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include: Professor R. Cramp and Professor A. C. Renton to be new members of the Advisory Committee on the Environment Board for England.

Birthdays today

Sir John Kendrick, FRS, to be a member of the board of trustees of the British Museum for five years, representing the Royal Society.

Science report

Botany: Plea for lilies of the field

least seven have been discovered in central Asia during the past 20 years. Lilies have never been common in the maritime European countries and those few that remain today are probably secondarily introduced...

Interest in modern British paintings sets auction records for 11 artists

By Geraldine Norman Sale Room Correspondent. The sale of modern British paintings at Christie's yesterday set auction record prices for 11 artists.

Funeral

Miss F. H. E. Basell The funeral of Miss Eva Hasell took place on Friday, May 10, at St Andrew's Church, Dacre.

Memorial service

Hon Mrs L. E. de Beaumont A memorial service for the Hon Mrs L. E. de Beaumont was held yesterday at Holy Trinity, Brompton.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before duty) the late Mrs J. M. de Beaumont, £24,067; Mrs J. M. de Beaumont, £24,067; Mrs J. M. de Beaumont, £24,067.

Services tomorrow: Fourth Sunday after Easter

St Paul's Cathedral: 10.30 AM. St Martin-in-the-Fields: 10.30 AM. St Dunstons: 10.30 AM. St Andrew's: 10.30 AM.

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Miss F. H. E. Basell The funeral of Miss Eva Hasell took place on Friday, May 10, at St Andrew's Church, Dacre.

Memorial service

Hon Mrs L. E. de Beaumont A memorial service for the Hon Mrs L. E. de Beaumont was held yesterday at Holy Trinity, Brompton.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before duty) the late Mrs J. M. de Beaumont, £24,067; Mrs J. M. de Beaumont, £24,067; Mrs J. M. de Beaumont, £24,067.

Services tomorrow: Fourth Sunday after Easter

St Paul's Cathedral: 10.30 AM. St Martin-in-the-Fields: 10.30 AM. St Dunstons: 10.30 AM. St Andrew's: 10.30 AM.

REPORT Oosterhuis catches up with his own signed rons for the first time

Peter Ryde
By Correspondent

For the third day running, no leader emerged in the Peugeot Golf tournament at Worthing; yesterday the joint leaders were Oosterhuis and Dale Hayes, to share the lead on 202, eight der par. Peter Tupting had a once in a way with them, but was out on 204, along with Brian Cotes had an off day. It was not case of his back, so he cannot considered to be quite out of the race, though Oosterhuis is one of those who are five strokes ad. Oosterhuis is certainly ing the crest. He must have an especially pleased yesterday, as he was the only one to have a set of his own signed iron, ring only just caught up with m after his travels.

He had one stroke of luck when he had a beautiful bunker shot the seventh hole into the hole a two, but apart from that he had a flat out on the eighth hole as at the third for a birdie, he long as anything he got down day. It looked as though his at the seventh hole, he was foled by another when he hit a eed wood to 10 feet at the eight, he missed.

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Hughes leads redesigned England

By Geoffrey Green
Football Correspondent

The next week will see all our footballing eyes—already tired and a bit crossed after a long, heavy and at times traumatic season—turned upwards upon our island game.

Beginning today and ending next Sunday with the traditional tribal clash between Scotland and England at Hampden Park (the one match above all others the Scots long to win), we are faced with the home international championship.

In many ways this is a more satisfactory format than of old; a contesting of the programme with three first team club commitments and all their energies bent to their respective countries. Strung out across the season in the days of the winter, the stadium tended to be forgotten in the stress of other events. Now the developing picture can be followed clearly.

The afternoon England face the Welsh first at Cardiff and do so for the first time under the wing of their new caretaker manager, the affable, but shrewd, Joe Mercer, who has always been a leader of men both on and off the field, and a believer in attack. The other lead is operated by a youth playing in the first team, a sensitive performer with a wide vision of the game, but who has not yet played before, before time.

The side Mr Mercer has picked for Cardiff has a keen look about it. It has a few players who are creative attack with the threat of

Worcestershire v Kent

Worcestershire: 1st Innings 256 (120 min); 2nd Innings 256 (120 min).
Kent: 1st Innings 256 (120 min); 2nd Innings 256 (120 min).

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Warrington need Murphy to inspire them

Peter Fox, the coach of the Rugby League Challenge Cup holders, Warrington, says that the team must be inspired by their new captain, Peter Murphy, to win the trophy.

Murphy, who has been playing in the first team since the start of the season, is a powerful and experienced player who has been instrumental in Warrington's success.

Motor racing Lauda picks immaculate line in practice

Erwin John Hunsden
Nivelles, May 10

Niki Lauda, the winner of the Spanish Grand Prix at Jarama two weeks ago, took advantage of a dry track here this afternoon to record the fastest practice time for Sunday's Belgian Grand Prix.

Lauda's time of 1:22.1 was a new record for the 1.6 litre Formula 1 cars and was well clear of the other drivers.

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THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Telford your opportunity Call Bob Timm... at 0952 613131

Telford has the space and the people for growing companies

Lloyds Bank pioneers base rate cut to 12 pc as spur to industrial borrowers

In a move which has surprised many observers... Lloyds Bank has announced a further reduction to 12 per cent...

Decision on monetary reform again deferred

By Our Economics Staff... Reform of the international monetary system now depends on the outcome of the ministerial meeting...

Norwegian government decides in favour of piping Frigg gas to UK

By Roger Vielvoxe Energy Correspondent... Big new supplies of natural gas should become available to British industry...



Mr J. D. Pile, Sir John Partridge's successor.

Mr J. D. Pile to head Imperial Group board

As foreshadowed at the annual meeting, Sir John Partridge retires as chairman of the Imperial Group next March...

Mr Shultz predicts firmer dollar and expansion in real US growth

in Frank Vogt... Mr Shultz, who has retired as Secretary of the treasury, forecast today that the dollar would gain in strength...

Maplin seaport seen as benefit to environment

By Michael Baily Shipping Correspondent... The first hint that the Maplin seaport project might have to be justified on environmental rather than economic grounds...

SE building upvalued at almost £90m

By Terry Byland... The new Stock Exchange building in the City of London has been professionally valued at £89.8m...

Metal Box wins third price increase

Metal Box announced last night that the Price Commission had authorized its third and largest round of price rises...

Nixon homes boost

President Nixon yesterday announced steps to inject \$10,300m (about £4,291m) most of it in private funds...

Motorola rejects bid

Motorola Incorporated yesterday advised Zenith Radio Corporation, which offered to negotiate to acquire two Motorola television set plants...

US Ford on full time

Ford is planning full operations at its United States plants during the rest of this month and will recall 1,200 workers...

Wall St down 15.33

A fresh rise in bank prime rates hit shares throughout the list on the New York Stock Exchange yesterday...

Bank chief aware of 'g stagging operations'

bank manager said at the Criminal Court yesterday that he knew quite well one of his customers was using large-scale 'stagging' operations between April and July, 1972...

Cosmex will go ahead with mini-steelworks

The plan by Cosmex, a Swiss trading corporation, to build a mini-steelworks at Newport in Monmouthshire is to go ahead despite the Government's refusal at present to consider an application for an Industrial Development Certificate...

Employers press for revision of weighting bonus

By Malcolm Brown... The British Iron and Steel Consumers Council has urged that the duty exemptions on products from the EEC should be extended from the end of June to the end of September...

Heavy buying surge boosts bond market

By Business News Staff... Government bond prices rose sharply on the London stock exchange yesterday in the face of further heavy buying...

Middle East Airlines keep open mind on Concorde

By Arthur Reed Air Correspondent... Middle East Airlines are still interested in Concorde, but before taking any decision the airline will wait the experience of British Airways and Air France in operating the supersonic airliner...

Dr Burns offers hope of tariff deal with Russia

Moscow, May 10—Describing the Soviet government as "quite impatient" to expand trade with the United States, Dr Arthur Burns, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, said today that he thought a "reasonable accommodation" could be reached on the politically sensitive question of granting Russia equal tariff status...

BSC ended contract so oil firm had to re-use pipe

An oil company operating in the North Sea is being compelled to extract drilling pipe from boreholes and use it again—a very expensive process—because the British Steel Corporation recently unilaterally cancelled its contract with it...

'Strike-breaking in secret' claimed

By Clifford Webb... Engineering union members on strike at a Birmingham company for the past two months yesterday introduced 24-hour picketing to stop a secret 'strike-breaking' network...

How the markets moved

Table showing market movements for various commodities like Rises, Falls, and Equities.

THE POUND

Table showing exchange rates for various countries like Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hongkong, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, S Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and Yugoslavia.

On other pages

Table listing other pages: Bank Base Rates Table, Unit Trust, Barclays Unicorn Australian Trust, Company Notices, Alko, Lloyds Bank.

Lloyds Bank Base Rate

Lloyds Bank announces that with effect from Monday, 13 May, 1974 its Base Rate for lending will be reduced from 12 1/2% to 12%...

Handwritten scribble at the top right of the page.

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

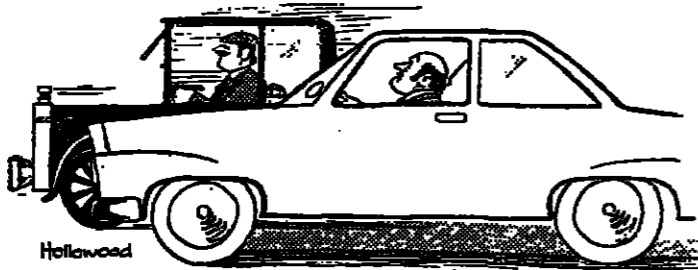
Grouse

For the past decade or more, there has been widespread agreement that the arrangements in this country for financial provision for old people are unsatisfactory. Too many people have to rely on supplementary benefits. Whatever emphasis is put on entitlement as of right to such benefits, anything which has to be applied for, and is paid only if need is shown, will go only part way to meeting the problem.

Motor insurance

Figuring out premiums

Deciding on the premiums to be paid by individual motorists used to be a very rough and ready affair. Among the factors taken into account by motor insurers were the type of car, its value, where it was garaged, and the use to which it would be put.



Motor insurers used to increase the premium for cars which were more than, say, five years old. The latest statistics show they were wrong.

In most cases, the value of a car which is insured is no longer an important factor on its own, since an allowance for this is made in the premium applicable to the type of car. But many other factors have been introduced in the attempt to make sure that the overall premium from individual groups of motorists is correct.

The whole object of insurance is to spread the load of those who make claims over those who do not, and so it is impossible to arrive at individual ratings. But the claims experience of different types of motorist does differ quite materially and insurers are anxious that, so far as possible, one group should not subsidize another. Thus many refinements are being introduced into the calculations of premiums.

For instance, the age of the car can be important. Taking all cars, irrespective of by whom and where they may be driven, one analysis has shown that the claim frequency per 100 of single years is 13.4 for comprehensive and 10.0 for non-comprehensive policies (fire, third party or third party, fire and theft).

For cars less than a year old, the respective figures are 15.9 and 12.1. For comprehensive policies, the claims frequency drops steadily with the age of the car—15.7 for cars one year old, 15.4 for two-year-old cars, 14.4 for those three or four years old, down to 8.8 for those five to 12 years and 5.3 for those in the 13-18 age bracket.

While, marginally, older cars may produce lower claims because they are older (or a lower figure will have to be paid in the event of total loss), in the main older cars do not produce fewer claims simply because they are older.

For instance, old cars are found more frequently in country areas where there are fewer accidents. Probably more important than that is the simple fact that most old cars are used less than new cars.

Someone with a high mileage (and a greater chance of being involved in an accident) will need a fairly new car, whereas old cars tend to be owned by those who cannot afford (or are not inclined) to run them very extensively, and so there is less risk of an accident.

On the other hand, young people often own old cars. And, as is well known, young drivers with little experience are a distinctly poor risk. So there are plenty of factors to be taken into consideration.

One cannot, however, get away from the fact that in general terms the older the car the better the risk is likely to be. In the past, insurers used to increase the premium for cars which were more than, say, five years old. The latest statistics show they were wrong and that, ideally, the average premium should be charged for cars which are four or five years old—without being charged for newer cars and less for older ones.

I have mentioned the age of drivers and, although not all young drivers run into trouble, as a whole the young do not move up the no-claim discount scale as quickly as more mature people.

In view of this, some insurers criticize the practice of cancelling the extra premium payable by a young driver when he has moved into a higher no-claim discount category, or the highest.

Their argument is that not only are young policy holders, as a whole, receiving more reward than their experience seems to warrant, but also they are probably not being rated up sufficiently for their age.

Investment trusts

Letting a computer do the agonizing

One irate reader, clearly finding time on his hands during the three-day week to lament his investment losses, wrote to us that the management of the investment trust in which he was invested (and had lost half his money in the space of 18 months) would be far better employed down a coal mine. Others have suggested that their investment managers be supplied with pins to pick shares, but none has yet written to suggest that the investment manager should be replaced by a computer.

But that is what has very nearly happened to the investment managers of Cumulus Investment Trust. In fact, the Kleinwort Benson investment department which was originally responsible for managing the fund on the basis of the collective wisdom of its investment department (and, doubtless, that of many stockbrokers' research departments) is now little more than an investment administrator of the fund. And much the same goes for the directors of the trust. The real master is a computer in Nottingham.

Once a week—every Thursday morning to be precise—the Nottingham computer serves up a print-out of the best buys and best sells, among 4,000 of the world's leading quoted companies. The recommendations are briefly discussed by the board and the Kleinwort investment department. Then the week's investment policy is put into train as quickly as possible.

TAC, or Technical Analysis by Computer, is the brainchild of George Coggan—a quietly spoken as one would expect of a former full-time member of the engineering faculty of Nottingham University, yet as elegantly turned out as the most impressive, cigar-smoking City gent. He developed his ideas in the late sixties and hawked them around the City without much success until he attracted the attention of John Smith, the Cumulus chairman who, in 1970, had just decided to give up his parliamentary seat as member for Westminster and the City.

TAC went live in July, 1970, with a weekly service based on 600 London quotations, the example of this has been the computer has outperformed the FT All-Share index in 13 out of the last 14 quarter years, with an average gain relative to the index of some 2 1/2 per cent a quarter. The latest half-yearly report, out last Thursday, makes impressive reading too, with net assets at the end of March down by only 12 per cent on a year ago against an index fall over the same period of 38 per cent.

What has the computer advised to obtain this kind of performance? Certainly, its decision to go heavily for United States shares last autumn has not worked out as well as it might have. But it seems to have done better in advising the reduction of the trust's United Kingdom holdings to two—the main being Albright & Wilson. Frest. It has done well on shares, correctly spotted by the market in time.

More important, though, how successful has the system proved? Well, to date, the computer has outperformed the FT All-Share index in 13 out of the last 14 quarter years, with an average gain relative to the index of some 2 1/2 per cent a quarter. The latest half-yearly report, out last Thursday, makes impressive reading too, with net assets at the end of March down by only 12 per cent on a year ago against an index fall over the same period of 38 per cent.

The exact formula on which the computer bases its recommendations remains hidden safely within it, away from the eyes of prying outsiders, but the principles on which the formula is based are those of the technical analyst. In other words, the approach is close to that of the trader rather than the analyst who bases his approach on the study of an economy, then an industry in that economy and, finally, a company within that industry.

In short, the system is based on price rather than value analysis. Within that framework, the most important single elements are the long and short term price trends of a share relative to other shares and, equally important, relative to cash. When it comes to making recommendations, the computer takes account of currency movements, marketability and the tax position.

Soon it is hoped to be able to expand the programme still further. An elaborate switching system for short-dated gilts has been devised by Dr Maxwell Noton, another engineering academic but this time from the University of Waterloo, Canada. Although Cumulus itself is too small to make the best use of the new scheme.

So what are the drawbacks to the system? One is that the computer obviously cannot be aware of political change. One recent example of this has been the computer's continuing recommendation of selected gold shares without being aware of the coup in Portugal. A second is that the system could demand a rate of portfolio turnover higher than the Inland Revenue may be prepared to accept for an investment trust. Another is that the computer is still not fully programmed in the marketability of certain shares, simply because

the shares have not yet appeared on the buy list and the management have not had to test the market in time.

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Maxwell Noton, John Smith (chairman), and George Coggan, of Cumulus Investment Trust.



Norman Miller: Federation's two-fold objective

Unit Trusts

European industry takes shape

The European Federation of Investment Funds and Companies sprang into existence at the beginning of the week. Its members are the British Association of Unit Trust Managers and its counterparts in Belgium, France and West Germany; associate membership has been granted to the Danish group in Denmark, Holland, Italy, Ireland and Luxembourg in the absence of national associations in those countries.

The objective of the new Federation is two-fold: it is primarily for the protection of shareholders and the good name of the industry; its other aim is to provide a representative body to deal with the EEC committee which currently have mutual fund issues under inspection. For the time being, this latter role will be performed by the two committees sitting on mutual funds. One is looking at prospectus requirements and the other at the harmonization of mutual fund law. Only the British delegation fielded someone from the industry—Norman

Miller, director of the Save and Prosper group—into these particular gatherings of Euro-civil servants.

It was this splendid, and worrying, isolation of Miller which led him to canvass for the setting-up of the Federation. His 18-month sojourn in Brussels had led to the conclusion that the committees were quite likely to come up with proposals "which would not be bought by the industry".

He felt that an official body which could be consulted before the final directives were issued would prevent suggestions such as the one that the management group of each individual fund should be capitalized at £400,000 from proceeding much further.

When the two committees first met it was clear that they were operating under the shadow of the IOR debacle. Over the last nine months or so, says Miller, there has been a welcome change. "The commission is taking a less doctrinaire view now and accepting that there are certain provisions which one cannot legislate for."

This change of attitude is welcome news for the mutual fund industry, and in particular the British unit trust industry. It means that "equivalence" rather than strict "harmonization" is likely to be the order of the day. And in view of the industry's many divergent practices, in particular the actual legal concept of a trust (a peculiarly British animal) means that much more is likely to be accomplished and more quickly.

If the equivalence of mutual fund law is accepted rather than harmonization it would be based on the Commission laying down certain minimum requirements of all national laws. But it would not outlaw the individual requirements of those laws over and above the basic minimum requirements.

If and when the full freedom for the movement of capital in the EEC is permitted, what this would mean in practice is that German mutual funds, French savacs etc could all be sold in this country and, of course, that

British unit trusts could be marketed as well as sold in a other EEC countries.

In the meantime, the minimum requirements are hammered out. These are to include levels of disclosure including any conflict of interest (do the directors own shares in the underlying portfolios), amount of assets to be in any one company, the percentage of a company's shares to be held all changes, and the independent status of the management party.

There has already been interest expressed in the Federation from tax-based funds and Am mutual funds. Ultimately could be drawn in—both as the savings fund of funds or funds still under development, the creation of a national federation would worthwhile goal.

Margaret St.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

A large table containing financial data for various investment units, including columns for 'High Offer Yield', 'Low Offer Yield', and 'Bid Offer Yield'. The table lists numerous investment funds and their performance metrics.

DITED BY MARGARET STONE

vestor's week

Retrenchment • Sugar shares

Whether strong Gilts and steady rises...



Harvesting cane sugar.

Year should increase from £4.09m to something over £5m.

Sugar contributed less than 10 per cent of earnings last year...

is only second to Tate & Lyle in market performance...

100,000 tons of sugar from Government emergency stockpiles...

The impetus is coming from the first benefits for the United Kingdom best industry...

On the cane sugar side, adverse weather conditions last year...

The expectation that United Kingdom imports of cane sugar will be some 20 per cent below the 1.7 million ton target...

the drawing of around

Booker where earnings this

Velcome change of heart

It is clear that the final version of the Finance Bill is being...

Taxation: capital gains More than mere chattels

The term 'tangible movable property' frequently crops up in capital gains tax law...



Hollowood "I'll have you know, young man, that you are looking at a Modigliani, not at a 'tangible, movable property'!"

The alternative way, if it gives a lower liability, is to tax half of the gains made up to £5,000...

The losses can be carried forward from year to year...

The £1,000 exemption for chattels applies to each individual item and there is no restriction to the number of chattels that can be exempt...

Under the normal method of working out the tax the maximum is 30 per cent of the gain...

Thus, if an antique sofa is bought for £1,000, the expenses of purchase and sale are £20, and it is finally sold for £900...

Trust performance table listing various trusts and their performance metrics.

Table listing companies like S. & P. Capital, Vanguard Growth, etc., with their performance metrics.

Table listing companies like M. & G. Pension Ex, Vivascan N.America, etc., with their performance metrics.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Strong start puts Samuel Osborn on way to full-time £1.7m

By David Mott Sheffield-based steel group Samuel Osborn is looking to raise its profits...

with a considerably reduced labour force, moved from a loss of £285,000 to a profit of £185,000...

The half-time result to March 22 (which provides another example of the three-day week not proving to be as disastrous as was first thought likely) proved to be a continuation of the trend...

Looking to the future the board says order books throughout the group are good and subject to the usual provisions the second half should at least match the first...



Mr Bernard Cotton, chairman of Samuel Osborn.

Reports

Liberty looks to exports this year

Along with other retail groups, the profits outlook for Liberty, the London store, in 1974 looks pretty bleak...

At present sales are up around 2.5 per cent on last year, but taking inflation into account...

Aberdeen Cons profit drops to six-year low

Although turnover of Aberdeen Construction reached record levels in 1973 group profits were severely cut back...

ties in prior years and arising as a consequence of the revaluation of properties which has now been carried out...

JW Pickles returns heavy loss

J. W. Pickles, the Yorkshire-based paint and household goods distributor which went public in October, 1972, suffered a sharp deterioration in the second half of last year...

Wimpey takes confident view of future

Builders George Wimpey are in a "very healthy position" and Mr R. Gane told his first meeting as chairman...

Leboff scrip after peak year

On top of a peak trading year, and with more acquisitions in the wind, the S. Leboff (Fobel) do-it-yourself group is proposing a one-for-five scrip issue...

However, the growth rate was a bit faster in the first half, when profits improved by 42 per cent to £431,000...

BUILD YOUR SAVINGS INTO CAPITAL

Monthly saving in Unicorn Australia Trust has many advantages—especially in today's difficult conditions

You know you ought to be saving, but where can you save in these difficult times? Barclays Unicorn still believe that regular saving linked to a good unit trust offers one of the best ways to combat inflation over the long-term...

Units of the Trust since its launch in May, 1964 would have represented a total saving of £1,200 up to 7th May, 1974. This investment at that date would have had a realisable value of £2,195—a profit of 89.9%...

The Savings Scheme here and now. Simply complete both parts of the form and post it to us. We will then forward the Bankers Order to your Bank...

Application Form for Barclays Unicorn, including a table of performance metrics and a BANKERS ORDER FORM.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Base rate cut gives further impetus to gilts

Gilt edged prices yesterday continued their steady advance, helped considerably by the Lloyds Bank cut in base rate. Prices were marked up from the outset and buyers were immediately in evidence. The top stocks were the best demand and the Government Broker appears to have steadily supplied the market with fresh stock.

Mineral

Nest Industries whose earnings last year were worth around \$1m on an annual basis to Yukon-Lumber prices dominate profits, but one can look ahead to 1977 to the first payments of the \$34m royalties resulting from the sale of coal deposits and the possible development of the 45 million tons of coal reserves—this, of course, depending on BC taxation.

Foreign Exchange

ending virtually unchanged on the day. Bundesbank support, totalling \$4,530,000, for the United States currency at Berlin, and possible Federal reserve intervention for its currency in New York overnight, could have helped the markets.

Spot Position of Sterling

Broad currency movements in Europe continued to signal market fears that some form of regrouping of leading exchange rates may shortly occur.

Forward Levels

Table with columns for currency, 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months forward rates.

Bank Base Rates

Table listing bank names and their respective base rates for various terms.

Amendment to AKZO Advertisement which appeared on 11th May 1974 (page 31). Paragraph re U.K. Residents should read: Dividends payable in cash for U.K. Residents will be paid less 15% withholding tax and U.K. income tax will be deducted at 15% of the gross dividend.

Results

Randalls soar above forecast to £633,000

Set against a forecast of £500,000 for last year, profits of Randalls Group, distributors to the building, engineering and electrical industries, soared 81 per cent to a best-ever £633,000 pre-tax. Sales reached £14.6m (£2.4m).

Mentmore Mfg

A shortage of labour and the consequent inability to meet demand meant that taxable profits of Mentmore Manufacturing fell to £513,000 in the 13 months to January 31, against £608,000 in the previous year. Also the chairman declared a dividend of £4.26m to £5.88m, while taxable profits go ahead from £204,000 to £286,000. Earnings a share are 6.4p (3.3p). The result is in line with expectations at half time, when profits recovered from £53,000 to £156,000, and a similar performance was promised for the second lap.

Davenport Brewery

Following last year's peak profit of £1,000, Davenport Brewery (Holdings), Birmingham based) has increased its interim pre-tax profits from £469,000 to £477,000. Turnover is not given, but the board says the result is reasonably satisfactory considering the current inflationary trend and general economic climate. The volume of sales has increased, but the three-day week affected the beer at home sector, where higher distribution costs are being experienced.

MILFORD DOCKS

Group increased trading loss of £25,000 (£27,000 profit) and net loss of £26,000 (£46,000). Overdraft cut to £15,000 from £120,000.

PRU STAKES IN LAIRD, KEYSER

Prudential Assurance reveals that it holds 10.25 per cent of Laird Group's equity and that it has stepped up its stake in Keyser Ullmann from around 12.68 to 13.05 per cent.

THOMAS TILLING

Confidence in long-term prospects undiminished. Board is determined to widen geographical spread of interests.

BROKERS MERGER

Grant & Grumbar, Bowditch and Grumbar & See, subject to Stock Exchange Council approval, are merging businesses from June 24 as a new partnership, Bowditch Grumbar & Co.

Wall Street

New York shares fall sharply

New York, May 10.—Another increase in the bank prime rate pushed shares lower throughout the day. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell by 15.33 points to 850.44. About 590 issues declined, while only 130 stocks advanced.

Money Market Rates

Table showing various money market rates including Treasury bills, commercial paper, and bank deposits.

Recent Issues

Table listing recently issued securities, their terms, and yields.

Issues & Loans

Stigwood plans US listing

The Robert Stigwood Group is studying the possibility of applying for a quotation on one of the United States' stock exchanges, probably the American Stock Exchange.

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

Table listing Eurobond issues, their maturities, and current market prices.

Rotork gives 1 for five

Shareholders of Rotork, the Bristol-based valve control equipment company, are not only to receive a rise in dividend from 1.24p to 1.3p, but also a one-for-five scrip issue.

James Beattie

Profits before tax at the James Beattie department stores group have maintained their growth rate with a rise from £1.22m to £1.46m on turnover of £13.65m, against £1.14m. The net, however, goes down from £728,000 to £683,000 after taxes including a deferred charge of £215,000 for the past year on a share of 11.83p (against 10.35p) and the dividend is up from 4.46p to 4.7p.

Arthur Bell

Arthur Bell, Scotch whisky distillers, hope to maintain profits at about £3.5m pre-tax this year, Mr R. M. Lewis writes. The current development programme, necessary to enable production to keep pace with sales, needs additional financing.

Commodities

Further drop in Reuters index

Reuters commodity index fell another 8.1 yesterday making a total of 26.5 on the week to 137.1 (1971-73 average 140.4). The decline in prices of most commodities used to compile the index, now standing at only 105.4 after the index is 105.6 below the year's high reached on February 2.

Cocoa futures plunge

Waves of stale bull liquidation hit London cocoa futures yesterday and prices fell sharply. At a weak close losses ranged between £125 to £140 a tonne. The latter position has plunged £125 a tonne since it reached its traded high of £1,050 only last Monday.

NY cocoa at limit-down

NEW YORK (AP)—COCOA futures closed lower on the 10th as the market reacted to the decline in London prices. The New York market was at a limit-down position.

£1m for Tonga

Britain is providing an interest-free loan of £1m over 15 years to Tonga. The loan is repayable over 25 years at a two per cent grace period.

Stigwood plans US listing

The Robert Stigwood Group is studying the possibility of applying for a quotation on one of the United States' stock exchanges, probably the American Stock Exchange.

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

Table listing Eurobond issues, their maturities, and current market prices.

Less NZ wool auctioned

Eight per cent less wool auctioned in New Zealand but for a 6.5 per cent smaller rise in the New Zealand Wool Corporation's sales.

European sugar crop disappoints

C. Cartwright estimates world sugar output in 1973-74 from 76,477,000 tonnes to 75,782,000 tonnes. Its latest review puts beet production at 32.3 tonnes against 30,991,000 tonnes output at 47,466,000 tonnes in 1972-73.

US zinc stocks fall

United States zinc stocks during April fell some short tons since sales exceeded smelter production. Production of zinc in the United States in March, compared with 48,996 tonnes in February and 47,448 tonnes in January.

Canadian Prices

Table listing various Canadian commodity prices including wheat, oil, and metals.

London and Regional Market Prices

Gilts rise again

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday Dealings End, May 23 Contango Day, May 24 Settlement Day, June 4 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

IF YOU HOLD SHARES

You can exchange them on favourable terms for units in any of 25 Save & Prosper Group funds. For details contact 4 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0EX. Telephone 01-588 1717

SAVE & PROSPER GROUP

FINE connoisseurs' cognac advertisement featuring a stag logo.

Main market price table with columns for various stock categories: BRITISH FUNDS, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL, OMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN, LOCAL AUTHORITIES, FOREIGN STOCKS, OIL STOCKS, BANKS AND DISCOUNTS, BEVERAGES AND DISTILLERS, FINANCIAL TRUSTS, SHIPPING, MINES, INSURANCE, INVESTMENT TRUSTS, OIL, PROPERTY, RUBBER, TEA, MISCELLANEOUS, and REGIONALS.

Announcements for the day, including company news and financial reports.

IC SITUATIONS

ICALLY BUSY
FATHER
A young hair-bearing girl in a white dress...

IDENTICAL
HOUSEKEEPER
5 OR FEMALE
A young French/American girl...

HOUSEKEEPER
DORSET
For couple with two children...

ACTIVE LADY
Cooking required for 4 in Hampstead...

NITLEMAN
Kitchener/maid. 6 hrs. a week...

HOUSEKEEPER
Professional help. 2 hours...

FAMILY READER
Family reader. 1 hour...

BUREAU RECEPTIONIST
London or abroad. 1 hour...

HOUSEWIFE
Housewife. 1 hour...

REQUIRE
Supply Cook-housemaid...

OTOR CARE
7/11. Havana Brown, better...

LAMPING VOLVO
Large selection of new and...

ROBBERD 1600 GT
In excellent condition...

TOEN DS 23 BPI
Cafeteria/restaurant...

LECTOR'S ITEM
200 Ador, colour...

MOTOR CARS
ROBBINS OF PUTNEY
Austin Rover Triumph...

GRAND PRIX
BUGATTI
Type 35A Original engine...

MERCEDES 450 SEL
1972 M Reg. with 100,000 miles...

FERRARI 365 GT 2
1969 Ferrari 365 GT 2...

TRUMPH STAG
1971 Trumph Stag...

PIAT PERSONAL EXPORT SALES
Honda Delivery, Tel. 01-583 5000

PIAT 138
1972 Piat 138...

LAND ROVER
1972 Land Rover...

ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY
A 1971 Rolls Royce P.H.C.

BENTLEY
Very nice car-catchers...

PHONE
01-533 643

BENTLEY T TYPE
May '69 2.0-2.3, 3 speed...

COLLECTOR'S ITEM
1956 Rolls-Royce 25/30...

OTOR CARE
1973 Havana Brown...

LAMPING VOLVO
Large selection of new...

ROBBERD 1600 GT
In excellent condition...

MOTOR CARS
JENSEN INTERCEPTOR III
ONLY 1,300 MILES

CHIFFREAD
CHEVROLET BEAT
1973 Beat...

MERCEDES 350 SLC
AUTOMATIC
1971 G.L. 3.0...

CITROEN ECONOMY
1971 Citroen Economy...

NO 4 BEVY
1971 No 4 Bevy...

MARCHE 1973
1973 Marché 1973...

SALE OR EXCHANGE
1972 Rover P5B...

LAND ROVER
1972 Land Rover...

ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY
A 1971 Rolls Royce P.H.C.

BENTLEY
Very nice car-catchers...

PHONE
01-533 643

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May '69 2.0-2.3, 3 speed...

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1956 Rolls-Royce 25/30...

OTOR CARE
1973 Havana Brown...

LAMPING VOLVO
Large selection of new...

ROBBERD 1600 GT
In excellent condition...

RENTALS
MARBLE ARCH
Air-conditioned, First-floor...

WANTED FOR FAMOUS
CELEBRITY
Luxury Apartment with 4...

THE LONDON
SERVICE FLAT CENTRE
1-493 3977

ITALIAN COUPLE
with two daughters...

LANCASTER GATE
Luxury 4-bed townhouse...

ST. JOHN'S WOOD
Quiet superb home...

FREEMER & DAVIES
One of London's best properties...

SUPERIOR FLATS
Modern, available...

OFF RICHMOND HILL
2-bed house...

ROOMS and Board
in London Home...

RYDE PARK, W.
Newly finished and decorated...

MOON OF 223
213 Piccadilly...

MAITLAND
Luxury flat in central London...

NEW MEDICAL
1972 Rover P5B...

CONVERTIBLE
1972 Rover P5B...

ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY
A 1971 Rolls Royce P.H.C.

RENTALS
IN THE BEST PART OF
CHELSEA
off Kensington Road...

BELGRAVIA
Elegant flat in modern apartment...

HOLLAND PARK
North Kensington, 2 quality furnished...

LUXURY FLAT
in modern apartment building...

AT ENNEMORE GARDEN
S.W.7, modern 2-bed house...

BEVER GREENS
from the balcony on the Chester House...

TELEPHONE ANSWERING
machines...

INDIVIDUAL and Corporate
Financial Management...

IBM ELECTRIC TYPEWRITERS
IBM electric typewriters...

AN OFFICE OF YOUR OWN
for rent...

OLD OFFICE FURNITURE
bought...

TELETYPE
Teletype machines...

TRANSLATIONS
English to French...

JEWELLERY REPAIRS
Quick reliable service...

REPAIRS DEPARTMENT
Repairs to all types...

VALUATIONS
Your Jewellery valued...

FOR SALE AND WANTED
CARPETS EXHIBITION
IDEAL HOME OLYMPIA/FILM...

SAPPHIRE CARPETS
14 1/2 Bridge Road...

ROSEHATH
China (London) Ltd.
Importers/Wholesalers of Persian Carpets...

CUTLERY
GIFT WARE
ART WARE
CRYSTAL

CARPETS
10,000 sq. yds. Tibetan Seal Carpet...

RESISTA CARPETS
54 Fulham Rd. S.W.6...

JUNGLE HAMMOCKS
3 URGENTLY REQUIRED
of waterproof roof and netting...

LARGEST SELECTION
of secondhand carpets...

GARDENING
Does your company want extra staff...

19TH CENTURY
oil painting in good condition...

DIAMOND JEWELRY
Antique Jewellery...

SALE & CASHMERE
Beautiful hand woven evening gowns...

PERSONALISED
Crumpled glass, milk, name, date, crest...

PERSONALISED
Crumpled glass, milk, name, date, crest...

PERSONALISED
Crumpled glass, milk, name, date, crest...

PERSONALISED
Crumpled glass, milk, name, date, crest...

FOR SALE AND WANTED
THE GREAT WAPPING
WINE COMPANY
NOW SHIPING WINE LOVERS...

ALL 100% PURE WOOL
BROADLOOMS
Super Wilton at £5.50 sq. yd.

LUXURY
BATHROOM SUITES
We offer large collections on our wide range...

EAST WEST SOUTH AFRICA
AUSTRALIA, AFRICA, THE FAR EAST...

TRAVEL TO MOST
DESTINATIONS
Incl. Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, U.S.A.

WORLD-WIDE FLIGHTS
Flights in air departure at best prices...

TRAVEL TO MOST
DESTINATIONS
Incl. Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, U.S.A.

WORLD-WIDE FLIGHTS
Flights in air departure at best prices...

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DESTINATIONS
Incl. Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, U.S.A.

WORLD-WIDE FLIGHTS
Flights in air departure at best prices...

ANIMALS AND BIRDS
BRUSH WATER
Specialist in brush water...

QUARANTINE
QUARANTINE SERVICES
Specialist in quarantine services...

BEAUTIFUL
BEAUTIFUL HOMES
Specialist in beautiful homes...

AFRICA SPECIALISTS
(ECON AIR)
Specialist in Africa specialists...

TOP FLIGHT TRAVELS
Worldwide low-cost flights...

TICKETS TO MOST
DESTINATIONS
Incl. Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, U.S.A.

WORLD-WIDE FLIGHTS
Flights in air departure at best prices...

TRAVEL TO MOST
DESTINATIONS
Incl. Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, U.S.A.

WORLD-WIDE FLIGHTS
Flights in air departure at best prices...

TRAVEL TO MOST
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WORLD-WIDE FLIGHTS
Flights in air departure at best prices...

TRAVEL TO MOST
DESTINATIONS
Incl. Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, U.S.A.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
WHITSUN IN MOROCCO
Solely first class...

AUSTRALIA-
NEW ZEALAND
Ship on from £155...

NEW YORK AND RETURN
FLY INTERJET
A few seats still available...

MOROCCO
NEXT WEEKEND
Additional seats...

WORLD-WIDE FLIGHTS
Flights in air departure at best prices...

TRAVEL TO MOST
DESTINATIONS
Incl. Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, U.S.A.

WORLD-WIDE FLIGHTS
Flights in air departure at best prices...

TRAVEL TO MOST
DESTINATIONS
Incl. Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, U.S.A.

WORLD-WIDE FLIGHTS
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TRAVEL TO MOST
DESTINATIONS
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DESTINATIONS
Incl. Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, U.S.A.

WORLD-WIDE FLIGHTS
Flights in air departure at best prices...

TRAVEL TO MOST
DESTINATIONS
Incl. Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, U.S.A.

ADVERTISING... Rates for various advertising spots and services.

DEATHS... Campbell - On May 10th, 1974, at his home in London, Campbell, aged 72, died of cancer.

DEATHS... On May 10th, 1974, at his home in London, aged 72, died of cancer.

DEATHS... On May 10th, 1974, at his home in London, aged 72, died of cancer.

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DEATHS... On May 10th, 1974, at his home in London, aged 72, died of cancer.

MEMORIAL SERVICES... Memorial service for Sir Robert... High Street, Portsmouth at noon on...

MEMORIAL SERVICES... Memorial service for Sir Robert... High Street, Portsmouth at noon on...

MEMORIAL SERVICES... Memorial service for Sir Robert... High Street, Portsmouth at noon on...

MEMORIAL SERVICES... Memorial service for Sir Robert... High Street, Portsmouth at noon on...

MEMORIAL SERVICES... Memorial service for Sir Robert... High Street, Portsmouth at noon on...

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MEMORIAL SERVICES... Memorial service for Sir Robert... High Street, Portsmouth at noon on...

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MEMORIAL SERVICES... Memorial service for Sir Robert... High Street, Portsmouth at noon on...

MEMORIAL SERVICES... Memorial service for Sir Robert... High Street, Portsmouth at noon on...

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 25

ANNOUNCEMENTS... CROWCOMBE COURT/ BRYMPTON SCHOOL... SOMERSET

ANNOUNCEMENTS... CROWCOMBE COURT/ BRYMPTON SCHOOL... SOMERSET

ANNOUNCEMENTS... CROWCOMBE COURT/ BRYMPTON SCHOOL... SOMERSET

ANNOUNCEMENTS... CROWCOMBE COURT/ BRYMPTON SCHOOL... SOMERSET

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ANNOUNCEMENTS... CROWCOMBE COURT/ BRYMPTON SCHOOL... SOMERSET

YACHTS AND BOATS... CHARTER AND HIRE... BOATS OF ALL SIZES for charter...

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YACHTS AND BOATS... CHARTER AND HIRE... BOATS OF ALL SIZES for charter...

YACHTS AND BOATS... CHARTER AND HIRE... BOATS OF ALL SIZES for charter...

UK HOLIDAYS... CANOE TRAINING HOLIDAYS... on the River Wye at the Bradford...

UK HOLIDAYS... CANOE TRAINING HOLIDAYS... on the River Wye at the Bradford...

UK HOLIDAYS... CANOE TRAINING HOLIDAYS... on the River Wye at the Bradford...

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UK HOLIDAYS... CANOE TRAINING HOLIDAYS... on the River Wye at the Bradford...

UK HOLIDAYS... CANOE TRAINING HOLIDAYS... on the River Wye at the Bradford...

UK HOLIDAYS... CHEALETTS AND FLATLETS... A few vacancies left for White...

UK HOLIDAYS... CHEALETTS AND FLATLETS... A few vacancies left for White...

UK HOLIDAYS... CHEALETTS AND FLATLETS... A few vacancies left for White...

UK HOLIDAYS... CHEALETTS AND FLATLETS... A few vacancies left for White...

UK HOLIDAYS... CHEALETTS AND FLATLETS... A few vacancies left for White...

UK HOLIDAYS... CHEALETTS AND FLATLETS... A few vacancies left for White...

UK HOLIDAYS... CHEALETTS AND FLATLETS... A few vacancies left for White...

UK HOLIDAYS... CHEALETTS AND FLATLETS... A few vacancies left for White...

UK HOLIDAYS... CHEALETTS AND FLATLETS... A few vacancies left for White...

UK HOLIDAYS... CHEALETTS AND FLATLETS... A few vacancies left for White...

UK HOLIDAYS... CHEALETTS AND FLATLETS... A few vacancies left for White...

UK HOLIDAYS... CHEALETTS AND FLATLETS... A few vacancies left for White...

UK HOLIDAYS... CHEALETTS AND FLATLETS... A few vacancies left for White...

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... The holidays which offer you really superb... SOVIET UNION

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... The holidays which offer you really superb... SOVIET UNION

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... The holidays which offer you really superb... SOVIET UNION

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... The holidays which offer you really superb... SOVIET UNION

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... The holidays which offer you really superb... SOVIET UNION

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 13,684

This puzzle, used at the York regional final of the Cuddy Sark/ Times Crossword Championship, was solved within 30 minutes by 3% of the finalists.

Grid for crossword puzzle No 13,684 with numbers 1-29.

- ACROSS 1 Main contender regarded as suffering from strabismus (8)
2 Boy gets a start in life as a beastly scavenger (6)
3 Persian ser returns light-weight bird for the oven (9)
4 Pass out of court, with South and North wing (5)
5 Bear or coin of the realm? (5)
6 Such conditions make tin car act strangely (9)
7 Ancient raven (7)
8 Constant companion for one walking out (6)
9 Unable to control course of publicity squabble (6)
10 Wacavily's supporter picking chestnuts (4-3)
11 Music group with key part in Orfitamme for instance (9)
12 Save about one pound for this being erected (5)
13 Strand in priest holding a place in Rome (5)
14 Outline a silly riddle (9)
15 Laurence's sainted sea cable (6)
16 Cravily spry shiner to chasser an instrument (8)
17 I've been nudged in a CAB for cheating (8)
18 Boy-maker Henry Machin has embarked (9)
19 A way to get out of the Geneva Declaration (5)
20 Where in a river the flow is upstream (7)
21 Able to drink things in, away round the globe (9)
22 Courtyard hears nothing of this scourge (5)
23 Diana's madness? (6)
24 Grand Indian instrument set up without charge (6)
25 Danny Boy for instance, grown up in old Palestine? (9)
26 By no means unique type of bridge (9)
27 Clumpy enough, if rather calm and stinky (8)
28 Hammer thrower has a number attached to his chest (6)
29 Stops, do we hear, their plumes (7)
30 Dagger ruins the blouse (6)
31 To North Carolina one governing (5)
32 No power of silence (5)
33 Solution of Puzzle No 13,683

34-ft ROYAL CRUISER... 34-ft ROYAL CRUISER... 34-ft ROYAL CRUISER... 34-ft ROYAL CRUISER...

BERMUDAN SLOOP... BERMUDAN SLOOP... BERMUDAN SLOOP... BERMUDAN SLOOP...

UK HOLIDAYS... UK HOLIDAYS... UK HOLIDAYS... UK HOLIDAYS... UK HOLIDAYS...